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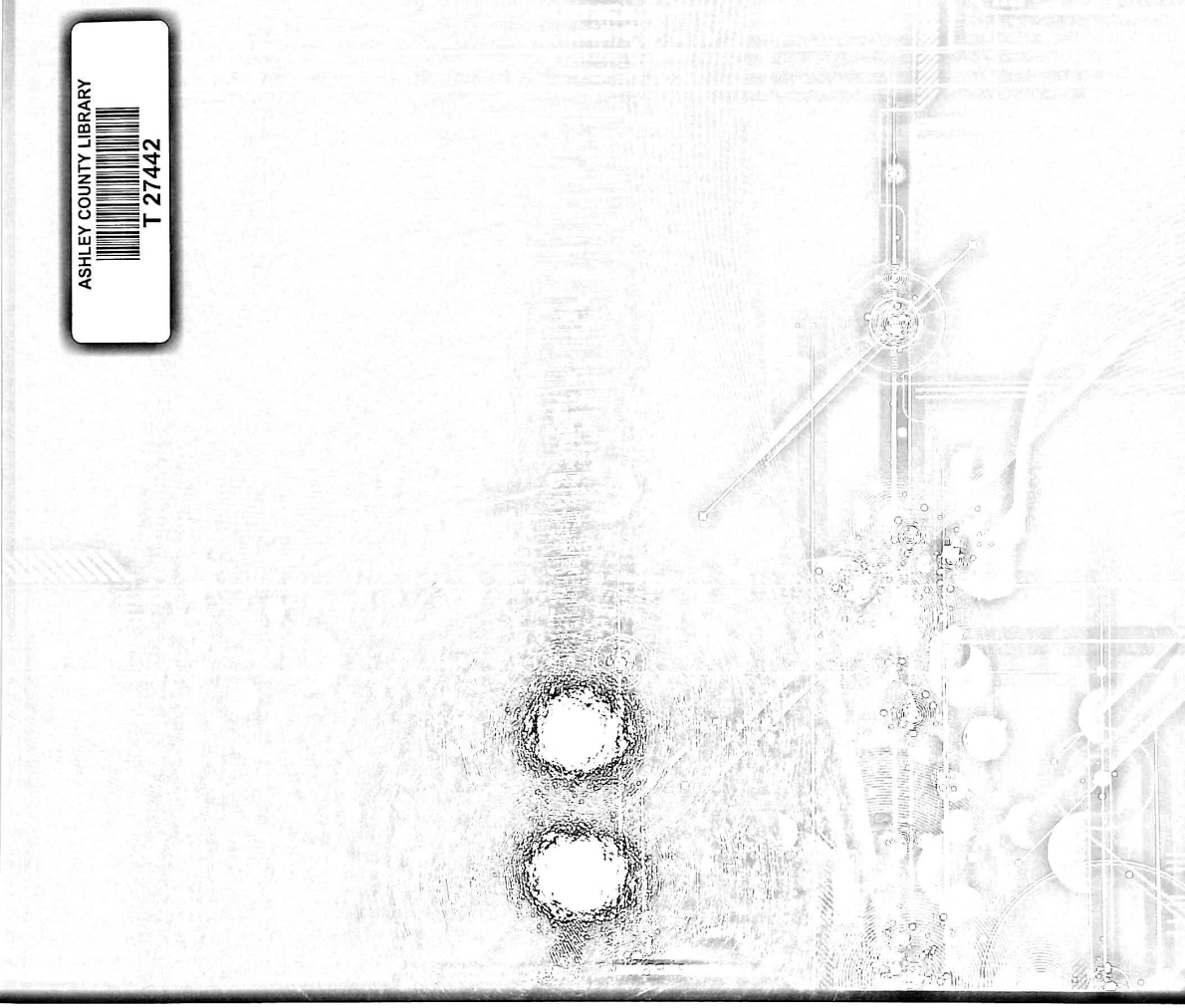

Rivers Of Arkansas, including: Red River (Mississippi River), Arkansas River, Buffalo National River, Saline River (Ouachita River), Little Missouri River (Arkansas), Ouachita River, Caddo River, Cossatot River, Spring River (Arkansas), Boeuf River

Hephaestus Books

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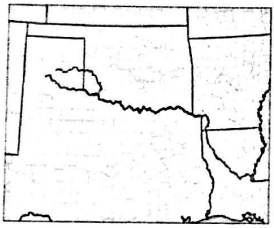
Red River (Mississippi River)

Red River (Mississippi River)

Red River	
River	
Red River looking east, north of Bonham, Texas	
Country	United States
States	Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana
Part of	Mississippi River
Length	2190 km (1361 mi)
Basin	169890 km² (65595 sq mi)
Discharge	
- average	200 m^3/s (7063 cu ft/s)



Map of the Red River watershed. Note that there is a flaw on the map (the watershed boundary does not actually extend all the way to the Mississippi River).

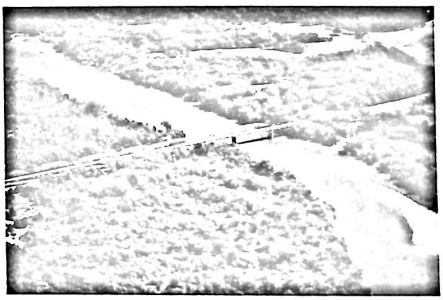
The **Red River**, or sometimes **The Red River of the South**, is a major tributary of the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers located in the United States of America. The river gains its name from the red-bed country of its watershed. It is one of several rivers with that name. The Red River is the second largest river basin in the southern Great Plains. It rises in two branches (forks) in the Texas Panhandle and flows east, where it acts as the border between present-day states of Texas and Oklahoma. It is a short border between Texas and Arkansas before entering Arkansas, turning south near Fulton, Arkansas and flowing into Louisiana. The total length of the river is 1,360 miles (2,190 km).

Geography

Course

The Red River rises in two forks in northern Texas and southwestern Oklahoma. The southern and largest fork, which is about 120 miles (190 km), is generally called the Prairie Dog Town Fork. It is formed in Randall County, Texas near the county seat of Canyon, by the confluence of intermittent Palo Duro Creek and Tierra Blanca Creek. (The names mean "Hard Wood" and "White Land", respectively, in Spanish.)

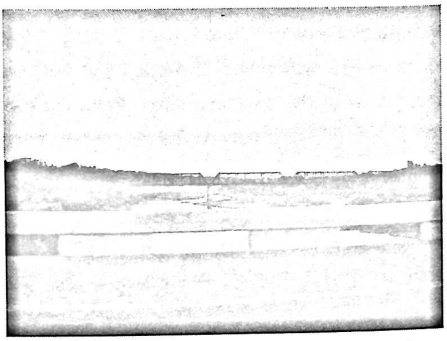
The Red River turns and flows southeast through Palo Duro Canyon in Palo Duro Canyon State Park at an elevation of 3440 feet (1050 m), then past Newlin, Texas to meet the Oklahoma state line. Past that point, it is generally considered as the main stem of the Red River. Near Elmer, Oklahoma the North Fork finally joins, and the river proceeds to follow a winding course east through one of the most arid parts of the Great Plains, receiving the Wichita River from the right as it passes the city of Wichita Falls. Near Denison the river exits the eastern end of Lake Texoma, a reservoir formed by the Denison Dam. The lake is also fed by the Washita River from the north.



State Highway No. 78 Bridge at the Red River between Oklahoma and Texas, seen from the West side.

After the river flows out of the southeastern end of the lake, it runs generally east towards Arkansas and receives Muddy Boggy Creek from the left before turning southwards near Texarkana.

Soon after, the river crosses south into Louisiana and bisects the sister cities of Shreveport and Bossier City before spreading into the complex network of marshlands surrounding the Mississippi River and Atchafalaya River. Its waters eventually discharge into both rivers (but mainly into the Atchafalaya), and flow eastwards or southwards into the Gulf of Mexico.



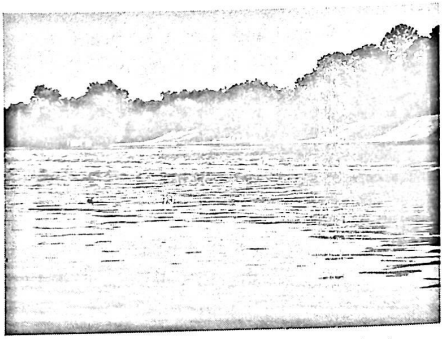
Crossing the Red River at the Texas-Oklahoma border from I-35.

Tributaries

Tributaries include the Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River, Salt Fork Red River, North Fork Red River, Pease River, Wichita River, Little Wichita River, Little River, Sulphur River, Loggy Bayou (through Lake Bistineau and Dorcheat Bayou)

Outflow

The Red River has a mean flow of over 7000 cubic feet per second (200 m^3/s).



The Red River changed its course near Natchitoches, Louisiana, and left behind Cane River Lake.

Watershed

The Red River's watershed covers 65590 square miles (169900 km^2) and is the southernmost major right tributary of the Mississippi, and the southernmost major river system in the Great Plains. Its drainage basin is mostly in the states of Texas and Oklahoma, but also covers parts of Arkansas and Louisiana. The river basin is characterized by flat, fertile agricultural land and there are only a few major cities. The drainage basin of the Red is very arid and receives little precipitation. As a result, much of the river above the Texas-Oklahoma border is intermittent, and until past its great bend south in Arkansas, the river's flow varies widely. The lower course of the river flows through a series of marshes and swamps, where its flow is dramatically moderated. Most of the agriculture in the basin is sustained by groundwater, which is rapidly being depleted.

History

Native Americans

Native American cultures along the river were diverse, developing specialized adaptations to the many different environments. By the time of European contact, the eastern piney woods were dominated by the numerous tribes of the Caddoan Confederacy. They found plentiful game and fish, and also had good land for cultivating staple crops. The middle part of the Red River was dominated by Wichita and Tonkawa. This area was prairie, where Native Americans constructed portable and temporary tepees for housing. They had limited farming and followed game in seasonal, nomadic hunting cycles. The Apache dominated the western Red River area until the 18th century, when they were displaced by invading Comanche from the north.

European-American exploration and settlement

In 1806 Zebulon Pike mounted an expedition to map the Red River, along with several other drainages such as the Arkansas River. He was captured by the Spanish shortly before striking the headwaters of the Red River. Randolph B. Marcy led an expedition several decades later to find the source of the Red River.

In Louisiana, the area of present-day Natchitoches Parish was settled by French Creole and mixed-race Louisiana Creole people starting before 1800. The Cane River National Heritage Area marks this area of influence, with plantations and churches founded by Louisiana Creoles. Some of the sites are also on the Louisiana African American Heritage Trail. For nearly 100 years after the American Civil War, some of the plantations were the center of a large African American and Creole community life, whose people lived and worked in this area for generations.

The area along the lower Red River of Grant Parish, Louisiana and neighboring parishes was a mixture of hill country and plantations, with white planters and subsistence farmers, and numerous African-American slaves on the plantations in the antebellum years. It was one of heated social tensions and insurgency during and after the Reconstruction era. Grant was a new parish created by the Reconstruction legislature, which was trying to increase Republican Party representation. In 1873, Grant Parish was the site of the Colfax Massacre, caused by the political tension and violence arising out of the disputed 1872 gubernatorial election and efforts by local whites to keep white supremacy. White militias, organized from nearby parishes, killed more than 100 blacks, some of whom had surrendered as prisoners. In 1874, such militias organized as the paramilitary White League in Grant Parish, and other chapters were soon founded across the state. The Coushatta Massacre was attributed to the White League, which attacked Republican officeholders to run them out of office. The paramilitary groups intimidated freedmen from voting, and by the late 1870s, conservative Democrats had retaken political control of the state.

Great Raft

In the early 19th century, settlers found that much of the river's length in Louisiana was unnavigable because of a collection of fallen trees that formed a "Great Raft" over 160 miles (260 km) long. Captain Henry Miller Shreve began clearing the log jam in 1839. The log jam was not completely cleared until the 1870s, when dynamite became available. The river was thereafter navigable, but north of Natchitoches, it was restricted to small craft.

In the 20th century, the interest group known as the Red River Valley Association was formed to lobby the United States Congress to make the river fully navigable between Alexandria and Shreveport, Louisiana. Leading supporters of the longstanding project were Louisiana Democratic senators Allen J. Ellender, J. Bennett Johnston, Jr. and Russell B. Long, Louisiana's former Fourth District Congressman Joseph David "Joe D." Waggonner, Jr., and the late Shreveport Mayor Littleberry Calhoun Allen, Jr. With the completion of the project, a lock system constructed by the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) now allows navigation of barge traffic as far north as Shreveport.

Greer County debate

Specialists debate whether North Fork or Prairie Dog Town Fork is the true stem. Because of a cartographic error, the land between the north and south forks was claimed by both the state of Texas and the federal government. Randolph Marcy's expedition followed Prairie Dog Town Fork in 1852. Originally called Greer County, Texas, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that it belonged to the United States, which at the time oversaw the Oklahoma Territory. That territory was later incorporated into the state of Oklahoma, whose southern border now follows the south fork. Today the southern Prairie Dog Town Fork is considered the main fork, even though the North Fork is as long and normally has a greater water flow.

Recreation

In 1943 Denison Dam was built on the Red River to form Lake Texoma, a large reservoir of 89,000 acres (360 km²), some 70 miles (110 km) north of Dallas. Other reservoirs on the river's tributaries serve as flood control.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Louisiana rivers
- List of Oklahoma rivers
- List of Texas rivers
- Great Raft
- Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River
- Red River Bridge War
- Adams–Onís Treaty
- The Red River Shootout, the annual college football game between the University of Texas Longhorns and the University of Oklahoma Sooners.

External links

- Randolph Marcy, *Exploration of the Red River* [1], 1852, hosted by the Portal to Texas History
- Red River [2] from the *Handbook of Texas Online*
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Red River [3]

Geology

- Red River Valley - Engineering Geology Mapping Program [4] PDF files of publications about and maps of the geology of the Red River Valley
- Autin, W. J., and C. E. Pearson, 1993, Quaternary Geology and Geoarchaeology of the Lower Red River Valley: Friends of the Pleistocene South Central Cell 11 th Annual Field Conference Alexandria, Louisiana March 26-28, 1993. [5] Friends of the Pleistocene South Central Cell and Louisiana Geological Survey, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 183 p.

Geographical coordinates: 31°1′10″N 91°44′52″W

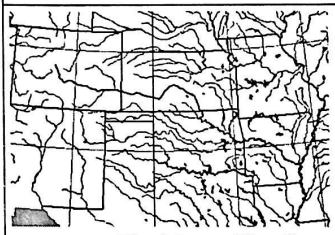
Arkansas River

Arkansas River

Geographical coordinates: 33°46′30″N 91°04′15″W

Arkansas River	
River	
The lower part of the Arkansas River near Tulsa, Oklahoma	
Country	United States
States	Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas
Region	Great Plains
Part of	Mississippi River watershed
Tributaries	
- left	Verdigris River, Neosho River
- right	Cimarron River, Canadian River
Cities	Pueblo, CO, Tulsa, OK, Muskogee, OK, Fort Smith, AR, Little Rock, AR, Pine Bluff, AR
Source	Confluence of East Fork Arkansas River and Tennessee Creek
- location	Near Leadville, Rocky Mountains, Colorado
- elevation	9728 ft (2965 m)
- coordinates	39°15′30″N 106°20′38″W
Mouth	Mississippi River
- location	Napoleon, Arkansas

- elevation	108 ft (33 m)
- coordinates	33°46′30″N 91°04′15″W
Length	1460 mi (2350 km), West-east
Basin	168002 sq mi (435123 km²)
Discharge	for Fort Smith, Arkansas
- average	39490 cu ft/s (1118 m^3/s)
- max	236000 cu ft/s (6683 m^3/s)
- min	7180 cu ft/s (203 m^3/s)



The Arkansas River flows through Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

The **Arkansas River** is a major tributary of the Mississippi River. The Arkansas generally flows to the east and southeast as it traverses the U.S. states of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

At 1,469 miles (2,364 km), it is the sixth longest river in the United States, the second-longest tributary in the Mississippi-Missouri system, and the 45th longest river in the world. Its origin is in the Rocky Mountains in Lake County, Colorado, near Leadville, and its mouth is at Napoleon, Arkansas. The Arkansas River drainage basin covers nearly 170,000 sq mi (440,300 km²). In terms of volume, the river is much smaller than both the Missouri and Ohio Rivers, with a mean discharge just shy of 40000 cubic feet per second (1100 m^3/s)

The Arkansas from its headwaters down to the 100th meridian west formed part of the US-Mexico border from the Adams-Onís Treaty (in force 1821) until the Texas Annexation or Treaty of Guadelupe Hidalgo.

Pronunciations

Hydrography

The headwaters of the Arkansas near Leadville, Colorado

The Arkansas has three distinct sections in its long path through central North America.

At its headwaters, the Arkansas runs as a steep mountain torrent through the Rockies in its narrow valley, dropping 4,600 feet (1.4 km) in 120 miles (193 km). This section (including *The Numbers*, *Brown's Canyon*, and the Royal Gorge) sees extensive whitewater rafting in the spring and summer.

At Cañon City, Colorado, the Arkansas River valley widens and flattens markedly. Just west of Pueblo, Colorado, the river enters the Great Plains. Through the rest of Colorado, through Kansas, and through northern Oklahoma to Tulsa, it is a typical Great Plains riverway, with wide shallow banks subject to seasonal flooding. Tributaries include the Canadian River and the Cimarron River (both flowing from northeastern New Mexico) and the Salt Fork Arkansas River.

The river is navigable by barges and large river craft to Muskogee, Oklahoma due to a series of locks and dams referred to below (McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System). Above Muskogee, the Arkansas River waterway itself is navigable only by small craft such as rafts or canoes.

Through Arkansas, the river valley is home to high, isolated, flat-topped mesas, buttes, or monadnocks such as Mount Nebo and Petit Jean Mountain, and Mount Magazine, the highest point in the state.

Water flow in the Arkansas River (as measured in central Kansas) has dropped from approximately 248 cubic feet per second (7 m^3/s) average from 1944-1963 to 53 cubic feet per second (1.5 m^3/s) average from 1984–2003, largely because of the pumping of groundwater for irrigation in eastern Colorado and western Kansas.

Important cities along the Arkansas river include Pueblo, Colorado; Wichita, Kansas; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Fort Smith and Little Rock, Arkansas.

The I-40 Bridge Disaster of May 2002 took place on I-40's crossing of Kerr Reservoir on the Arkansas River near Webbers Falls, Oklahoma.

Allocation problems

Since 1902, Kansas has claimed that Colorado takes too much of the river's water, resulting in a number of lawsuits before the U.S. Supreme Court that continue to this day, generally under the name of *Kansas v. Colorado*. The problems over the possession and use of Arkansas River water by Colorado and Kansas led to the creation of an interstate compact or agreement between the two states. While Congress approved the Arkansas River Compact in 1949, it did not stop further disputes by the two states over water rights to the river.

Riverway commerce

Main article: McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System

The **McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System** begins at the Tulsa Port of Catoosa on the Verdigris River, and runs via an extensive Lock and Dam system to the Mississippi River.

Through Oklahoma and Arkansas, dams artificially deepen and widen this modestly sized river to build it into a commercially navigable body of water. From the mouth of the Verdigris, until the McClellan-Kerr system moves over to the White River near Arkansas Post, the Arkansas sustains commercial barge traffic and offers passenger and recreational use and is little more than a series of reservoirs.

Watershed trails

Many nations of Native Americans lived near, or along, the 1,450 mile (2334 km) stretch of the Arkansas River for thousands of years. The first Europeans to see the river were members of the Spanish Coronado expedition on June 29, 1541. Also in the 1540s, Hernando de Soto discovered the junction of the Arkansas with the Mississippi. The name "Arkansas" was first applied by Father Jacques Marquette, who called the river *Akansa* in his journal of 1673.

In 1819, the Adams-Onís Treaty set the Arkansas as part of the frontier between the United States and Spanish Mexico. This continued until the United States annexed Texas after the Mexican-American War, in 1846.

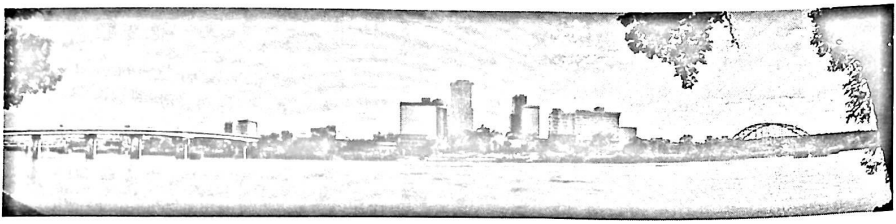
Later, the Santa Fe Trail followed the Arkansas through much of Kansas, except for the Cimarron Cutoff from Cimarron, Kansas, to Cimarron, New Mexico, via Cimarron County, Oklahoma along the Cimarron River.

In the 1880s, Charles "Buffalo" Jones, one of the co-founders of Garden City, Kansas, organized four irrigation companies to take water one hundred miles from the Arkansas River to cultivate 75000 acres (300 km^2) of land.

Angling

The headwaters of the Arkansas River, in central Colorado, has been known for exceptional trout fishing, particularly fly fishing, since the 19th century when Cutthroat trout dominated the river. Today, Brown trout dominate the river, which also contains Rainbow trout. *Trout Unlimited* considers the Arkansas one of the top 100 trout streams in America, a reputation the river has had since the 1950s.. From Leadville to Pueblo, the Arkansas river is serviced by numerous fly shops and guides operating in Buena Vista, Salida, Cañon City and Pueblo. The Colorado Division of Wildlife provides regular online fishing reports for the river.

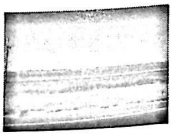
Gallery



The Arkansas River passing through Little Rock, Arkansas, as viewed from the north bank.

Arkansas River in downtown Pueblo, Colorado

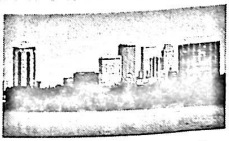
Arkansas River, looking across to North Little Rock



Drought can reduce the Arkansas River so much that trees along the river cannot survive.

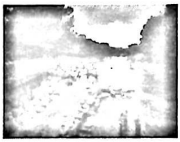
John Martin Dam and Reservoir on the Arkansas River in Bent County, Colorado

Whitewater kayaking on the Arkansas River



The Arkansas River in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Fly Fishermen on the Arkansas River near Salida, Colorado



Arkansas River in Salida, Colorado

The Arkansas River in Natural Steps, Arkansas

See also

- List of crossings of the Arkansas River
- McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System
- Listing of rivers for each state: Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas
- Kansas v. Colorado

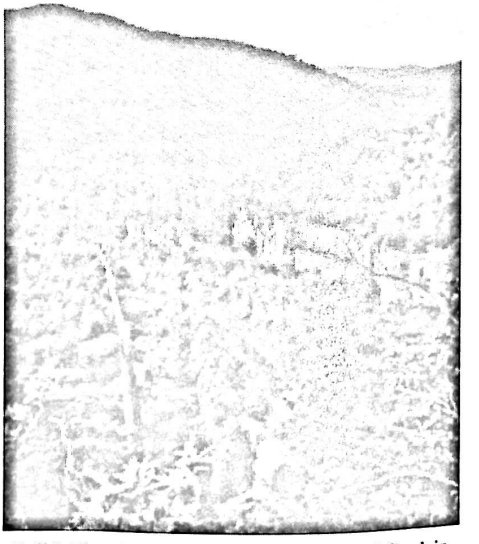
External links

- Aquifer saturation map [1] for *Equus Beds Aquifer Recharge Project*
- Arkansas River Coalition [2]
- Full Scale Map [3]
- Santa Fe Trail Research [4]
- Wichita Water Center Tours [5]
- Animated Map [6] of navigation system
- Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture - Arkansas River [7]

Buffalo National River

Buffalo National River

The **Buffalo River**, located in northern Arkansas, was the first National River to be designated in the United States. The Buffalo River is slightly more than 150 miles (240 km) in length, with the lower 135 miles (217 km) flowing within the boundaries of an area managed by the National Park Service, where it is designated the **Buffalo National River** [1]. The river flows through Newton, Searcy, Marion, and Baxter Counties, from west to east. The river originates in the highest part of Boston Mountains of the Ozarks, flows out onto the Springfield Plateau near the historic community of Erbie, and finally crosses the Salem Plateau just before joining the White River. The Park is home to the state's only elk herd. The upper section of the river in the Ozark National Forest is managed by the U.S. Forest Service and is designated as a National Scenic River and a National Wild River.



Buffalo River from river trail overlook near Steel Creek in the Boston Mountains.

The Buffalo National River was established by an Act of Congress on March 1, 1972, ending the recurring plans of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct one or more dams on the river. The National River designation protects natural rivers from industrial uses, impoundments and other obstructions that may change the natural character of the river or disrupt the natural habitat for the flora and fauna that live in or near the river. At a point about 15 miles (24 km) above the Park boundary in Newton County, Arkansas, the Buffalo River begins as the Main Prong of Big Buffalo Creek. On 1:24,000 scale United States Geological Survey topographic maps, the Buffalo River is shown to form at the confluence of Reeves Fork and Big Buffalo Creek north of Fallsville, Arkansas. The river flows north through Boxley to Ponca, where it then begins an eastward trek across northern Arkansas to its confluence with the White River on the Marion-Baxter County line. Advanced canoeists and kayakers

often refer to the 15-mile (24 km) section upriver from Boxley, Arkansas as the Hailstone River. This extremely challenging section of the river is floatable only during periods of high water and should be attempted only by those with solid whitewater skills.

Along the upper river, the gradient is steep and the water is fast, leveling and slowing as the river runs its course. The upper section has most of the whitewater rapids to be found along the river, and features dramatic topography including sink holes and caves, springs, and waterfalls, over 500-foot (150 m) tall sandstone and limestone bluffs, and many interesting rock formations. At one point, a 0.65-mile (1.05 km) hike from the river up a narrow, boxed canyon leads to a 209-foot (64 m) waterfall, Hemmed-In-Hollow Falls, the highest of its kind between the Southern Appalachians and the Rockies. The river's ancient current also gives life to well over 300 species of fish, insects, freshwater mussels, and aquatic plants.

The Buffalo National River is a popular camping, canoeing, and fishing destination. Visitors may bring their own canoes or rent from several independent concessioners. Camping is generally allowed throughout the park with the following exceptions: the Hemmed-in-Hollow area, on Big Bluff, in historical structures, on private property within the park, or within 100 feet (30 m) of any trail or watercourse. Camping is, however, permitted on gravel bars and sand bars along the river. In addition, the National Park Service has a number of "developed" campgrounds along the river.

The National Park Service headquarters for the Buffalo National River is located in Harrison, Arkansas.

Major access areas

- Boxley Bridge – located on the upper end of the river along Arkansas 21. Boxley provides access to the Upper Buffalo Wilderness Area, a joint area with the Ozark National Forest and the National Riverway. Provides river access
- *Lost Valley* - located on Arkansas 43 between Arkansas 21 and Ponca.
- **Ponca** – Location of Beaver Jim Villines Boyhood Home. Ponca retains one of the old 'low water' bridges over the Buffalo. All boaters must portage over this barrier. Provides river access
- *Steel Creek* – is located on the upstream side of the Ponca Wilderness Area. Provides river access
- *Kyles Landing* – is located on the downstream side and across the river from the Ponca Wilderness area. Provides river access
- *Erbie* - Provides river access
- *Ozark* - Provides river access
- **Pruitt Ranger Station** – is on Arkansas 7 at the top of the hill overlooking the picnic area and foot access to the river. For boat access, you need to cross the high bridge on Arkansas 7 and use Pruitt Landing.
- **Pruitt Landing** – is located just downstream from Pruitt Ranger Station. Provides river access

- *Hasty* – located on Arkansas 123, Hasty is the second 'low water' bridge along the river coming down stream. Provides river access
- *Carver* – located on the paved road between Hasty on Arkansas 123 and Piercetown on Arkansas 74. Provides river access
- *Mount Hersey* – is accessible from unimproved roads. From this access point, 'Tha Nars' (Narrows) and Skull Bluff are reached downstream. Provides river access
- *Woolum* - Provides river access
- **Tyler Bend Visitor Center** – is the primary public contact area. It's just off of U.S. 65. There is a full service visitor center, picnic area, campground and ranger station. Provides river access Additionally, the 'Colliers Homestead' preserves a record of life in the mountains
- *Grinders Ferry* – is located at the Highway 65 Bridge over the Buffalo River. Provides river access
- *Gilbert* – is at the end of Arkansas 333 a short 4 miles (6.4 km) off U.S. 65. Provides river access
- *Maumee North* – is on the north side of the river and west of Maumee South. It is accessed by an unimproved road. Provides river access
- *Maumee South* – is on the south side of the river and is accessed from an unimproved road beyond the end of the pavement on County Road 49.
- **Dillards Ferry** – is located on Arkansas 14 at the bridge over the Buffalo River. Provides river access
- **Buffalo Point Ranger Station** – is at the end of the pavement on Arkansas 268. Provides river access
- *Rushland* – is reached by an unimproved road beyond the end of the pavement on County 26. It provides access across the river to the Lower Buffalo Wilderness Area a joint wild area with the Ozark National Forest's Leatherwood Wilderness Area. Provides river access
- **Buffalo City** – is located outside the National River at the junction of the Buffalo River with its parent the White River. Buffalo City is located off the US 62-412 in Mountain Home on State road 126 South, about 12 miles from Mountain Home. Provides river access, primarily as the last take out for the Buffalo River along with boat rentals, camping and cabins.

See also

- Buffalo River Trail
- Buffalo River State Park Historic District
- Big Buffalo Valley Historic District
- Rush Historic District
- Parker-Hickman Farm Historic District

Further Readings

- *The Buffalo River in Black and White.* University of Arkansas Press, 1998. ISBN 0-912456-21-3
- *The Buffalo Flows: The Story of Our First National River.* University of Arkansas Press, 2009.

External links

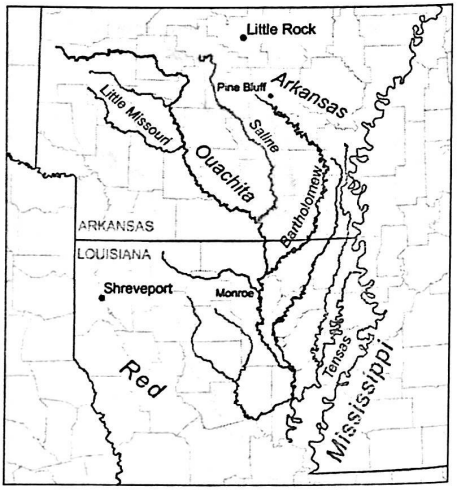
- National Park Service Buffalo River webpage [2]
- Map of the Buffalo National River, PDF format, 226KB [3]
- Buffalo National River information [4]
- Buffalo National River travel guide from Wikitravel

Saline River (Ouachita River)

Saline River (Ouachita River)

The **Saline River** is a 204-mile-long tributary of the Ouachita River in the southwest portion of the U.S. State of Arkansas.

The Saline River begins in the eastern foothills of the Ouachita Mountains in Saline County, Arkansas. The river has three sections, the Middle Fork, the Alum Fork, and the North Fork, which merge north of the city of Benton, Arkansas.



Location of the Saline River within the Ouachita watershed.

The upper section of the Saline is a clear, cold-water stream with a series of fast running shoals interspersed with quiet pools. The central section of the river has clear to murky water with long slower moving pools interrupted by short stretches of fast water. The lower section is sluggish with murky water. During parts of the year the lower stretches of the river can be somewhat clogged with brush or trees.

After the merge of the three forks the river flattens and travels through Grant, Cleveland, Bradley, and Ashley counties.

The river empties into the Ouachita River in the Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge. The river has a gravel bottom throughout its length.

The Saline is relatively free of development. The river runs through dense forests which are home to deer, mink, otters, beaver, muskrats, turkey, and squirrel. The river provides excellent fishing, scenery, and wilderness floating.

Smallmouth, largemouth, rock bass, and spotted bass as well as warmouth, longear, green sunfish, bluegills, channel catfish, and crappie inhabit the river.

Picknicking and swimming facilities are available at Jenkins' Ferry Historical Monument south of Sheridan, Arkansas which commemorates the Battle of Jenkins' Ferry during the American Civil War.

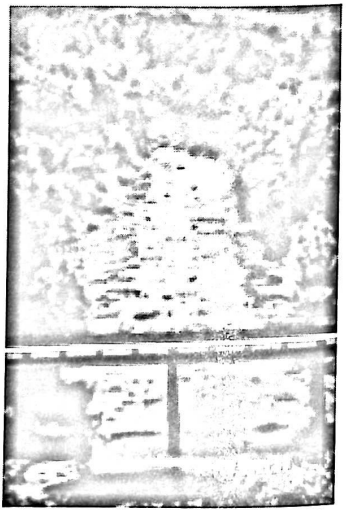
See also

- List of rivers of Arkansas

Little Missouri River (Arkansas)

Little Missouri River (Arkansas)

The **Little Missouri River**, or *Little Mo*, runs from the Ouachita Mountains of southwest Arkansas into the rolling hills area in the surrounding countryside.



Lower stretch of Little Missouri River below Narrows Dam

Overview

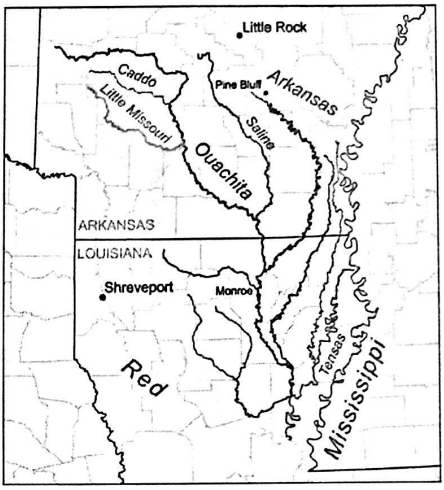
The Little Missouri River is a rocky mountain river that flows through narrow forested canyons. This river has numerous small waterfalls, crystal clear water, and outstanding scenery including towering rocky bluffs crowned with pine.

The Little Missouri River was so named because its lower reaches were said to remind early French explorers of the Missouri River.

Course

The Little Missouri flows in a generally north-to-south direction through Pike, Clark, and Montgomery on the western side of the Ouachita River. The Little Missouri River is south of, and runs parallel to, the Caddo River, before flowing into the Ouachita River above Camden, Arkansas. The largest tributary of the Little Missouri River is the Antoine River. The Little Missouri River is intermittently navigable to small boats below its confluence with the Antoine River, although it is rarely used.

The Little Missouri River is dammed by Narrows Dam and forms Lake Greeson. The upper stretches of the Little Missouri River above Lake Greeson descend 1,035 feet in 29 miles (315 m in 47 km) for an average drop of 35 feet per mile (6.6 m/km). This makes the upper waters of the river excellent for experienced canoers. There is a 4.4-mile (7.1 km) long segment that has been designated as a wild river. This segment contains the *Winding Stair Rapid*, which is classified as a Class IV rapid on the International Scale of River Difficulty. Another attraction on the upper river is Little Missouri Falls, a stair-step fall that attracts photographers and visitors. The upper reaches of the Little Missouri were considered so scenic that the area was once approved by Congress to become Ouachita National Park, until this action was vetoed by President Herbert Hoover. The watershed of the Little Missouri River is quite small, which means that its upper reaches ordinarily contain little water during the dry summer months.



Location of the Little Missouri River within the Ouachita watershed.

The Little Missouri River is a superior fishing stream for rainbow trout, green sunfish, longear sunfish, smallmouth bass, spotted bass, and other species. The area below the dam at Lake Greeson is most popular for trout fishermen.

Portions of the Little Missouri River flow through the Ouachita National Forest, and the lower segment flows past the Crater of Diamonds State Park. The Albert Pike Campground provides camping facilities for visitors to the area.

The Little Missouri is listed as a "Wild and Scenic River" by the United States Forest Service. The upper reaches of the river are designated as an "Arkansas Natural and Scenic River" by the State.

History

During the American Civil War a small battle was fought on the Little Missouri 10 miles north of Prescott, Arkansas, at the Clark-Nevada County line. The battle is called the Battle of the Little Missouri River by the north and Battle of Elkin's Ferry by the south.

Main article: June 2010 Arkansas floods

During the night of June 10-11, 2010 a flash flood along Little Missouri killed at least eighteen people in the campgrounds of the Albert Pike Recreational Area. In a matter of less than four hours water rose from three feet to over twenty-three feet.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

External links

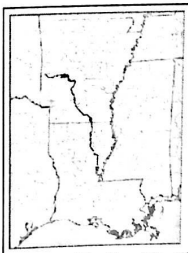
- Little Missouri River and Lake Greeson [1]

Ouachita River

Ouachita River

Geographical coordinates: 31°37′53″N 91°48′25″W

Ouachita River	
River	
Country	United States
States	Arkansas, Louisiana
Tributaries	
- left	Little Missouri, Saline, Tensas
- right	Caddo, Little
Cities	Hot Springs, AR, Camden, AR, Monroe, LA, West Monroe, LA
Source	
- location	Ouachita Mountains, Polk County, Arkansas
- coordinates	34°41′56″N 94°19′57″W
Mouth	Red River
- location	Catahoula Parish, Louisiana
- coordinates	31°37′53″N 91°48′25″W
Length	605 mi (974 km)

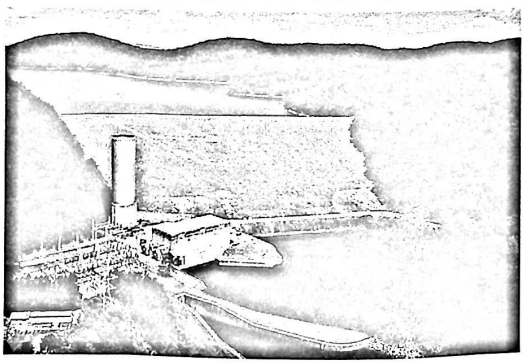


Map of the Ouachita River watershed. The Ouachita joins the Red River just before the Red joins the Mississippi River.

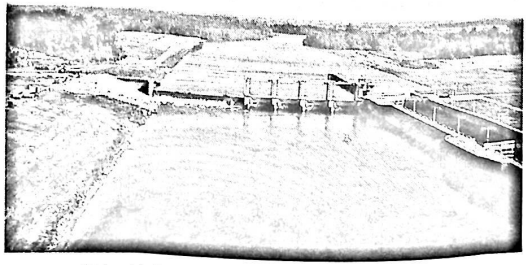
Course

The Ouachita River begins in the Ouachita Mountains near Mena, Arkansas. It flows east into Lake Ouachita, a reservoir created by Blakely Mountain Dam. The North Fork and South Fork of the Ouachita flow into Lake Ouachita to join the main stream. Portions of the river in this region flow through the Ouachita National Forest. From the lake, the Ouachita flows south into Lake Hamilton, a reservoir created by Carpenter Dam, named after Flavius Josephus Carpenter. The city of Hot Springs, Arkansas, lies on the north side of Lake Hamilton. Another reservoir, Lake Catherine, impounds the Ouachita just below Lake Hamilton. Below Lake Catherine, the river flows free through most of the rest of Arkansas.

Just below Lake Catherine, the river bends south near Malvern, Arkansas, and collects the Caddo River tributary near Arkadelphia. Downstream, the



Blakely Mountain Dam on the Ouachita River in Garland County, Arkansas. The dam impounds the Ouachita Reservoir.



Columbia Lock and Dam on the Ouachita River

Little Missouri River joins the Ouachita. After passing the city of Camden, shortly downstream from where dredging for navigational purposes begins, the river collects the waters of Smackover Creek and later the Ouachita's main tributary, the Saline River. South of the Saline, the Ouachita flows into Lake Jack Lee, a reservoir created by the Ouachita and Black River Project, just north of the Louisiana state line. The Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge encompasses the Ouachita from the Saline River to Lake Jack Lee's mouth.

Below Lake Jack Lee, the Ouachita continues south and into Louisiana. The river flows generally south through the state, collecting the tributary waters of Bayou Bartholomew, Bayou de Loutre, Bayou D'Arbonne, the Boeuf River, the Little River, and the Tensas River. Beyond the Tensas, the Ouachita is called the Black River for several miles until it joins the Red River, which flows into both the Atchafalaya River and the Mississippi River, via the Old River Control Structure.

The river has five locks and dams along its length, located at Camden AR, Calion AR, Felsenthal AR, Columbia LA, and Jonesville LA.

History

The river is named for the Ouachita tribe, which was one of several who lived along the river. Others included the Caddo, Osage Nation, Tensa, Chickasaw, and Choctaw. *Washita* is an Indian word meaning "good hunting grounds" and "sparkling silver water." A mound-building civilization existed along the river at one time, as evidenced by the mounds found along its length. The largest such mound was destroyed in the 20th century during construction of a bridge at Jonesville, Louisiana. Likely built by the Mississippian culture which rose about 1000 CE, this mound was reported in use as late as 1540 by the explorer Hernando de Soto. On his expedition through this area, he encountered Indians' occupying the site. A lightning strike destroyed the temple on the mound that year, which was seen as a bad omen by the tribe. They never rebuilt the temple, and abandoned the site about 1730.

The river served as a route into northern Louisiana and southwestern Arkansas for European colonists and later American migrants after the Louisiana Purchase. It has served as an important transportation and trade route since the 18th century.

During the 1830s, the Ouachita River Valley was a magnet for land speculators from New York and Southeastern cities. Its rich soil and accessibility by river due to the country's elaborate steamboat network made it desirable. Developers cultivated land for large cotton plantations, which supported new wealth in the ante-bellum years. Steamboats ran scheduled trips between Camden and New Orleans, for example. A person could travel from any eastern city to the Ouachita River without touching land except to transfer from one steamboat to another.

One of the investors from the east was Meriwether Lewis Randolph, youngest grandson of Thomas Jefferson. He was building a home on the Ouachita River in what is now Clark County, Arkansas, when he died of malaria in 1837. He had been appointed Secretary of the Arkansas Territory by

President Andrew Jackson in 1835, and had relinquished his commission when Arkansas became a state in 1836.

There were skirmishes about the Ouachita River during the American Civil War. On September 1, 1863, forces of the Seventeenth Wisconsin led by Brig. Gen. M.M. Crocker crossed from Natchez, Mississippi to Vidalia, the seat of Concordia Parish, Louisiana and moved toward the lower Ouachita in the section called the Black River. That night the Confederate steamer *Rinaldo* was taken after a short artillery duel and was destroyed. Crocker, meanwhile fought with the few troops stationed on the Black River and moved toward Harrisonburg, seat of Catahoula Parish.

Natural history

The river continues to be utilized for commercial navigation on a smaller scale than during its "steamboat" days. It is fed by numerous small creeks containing endemic native fish such as killifish. Fishing remains popular in the river for black bass, white bass, bream, freshwater drum, and gar. Concerns about airborne mercury contamination in some areas discourage consumption of the fish for food. Fishing for rainbow trout is popular in the tailwaters of Lakes Ouachita, Hamilton and Catherine in and around Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The river is commercially navigable from Camden, Arkansas, to its terminal point in Jonesville in Catahoula Parish in eastern Louisiana. Upstream of Camden, the river receives substantial recreational use.

The Ouachita is lined for most of its length with deep woods, including substantial wetlands. It has a scenic quality representative of the southwestern Arkansas and northern Louisiana region.

The Ouachita River has been threatened by the proposed El Dorado Pipeline project. The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality approved an application to place a 36-inch (910 mm) pipeline in the bed of the river in Union County, Arkansas. The county proposed to dump 20 million gallons of effluent discharge per day from three privately owned chemical plants, as well as wastewater of the city of El Dorado.

Former Louisiana Attorney General Foti interceded in the permitting process. He had vowed to file a lawsuit to prevent the project from progressing further.

Keith Skinner [1], a freelance photojournalist, has written several articles concerning the project. He cited concerns by an Environmental Engineer's independent assessment of the proposed project. 22 miles (35 km) of the Ouachita is designated "Louisiana Scenic Waterway", from the state line to the north bank of Bayou Bartholomew, which has no industry on it. The first sampling station on the Ouachita River after the Louisiana / Arkansas state line is at Sterlington.

Lists

Major towns along the river are:

- Mena, Arkansas
- Hot Springs, Arkansas
- Malvern, Arkansas
- Arkadelphia, Arkansas
- Camden, Arkansas
- Crossett, Arkansas
- Sterlington, Louisiana
- Monroe, Louisiana
- West Monroe, Louisiana
- Columbia, Louisiana
- Harrisonburg, Louisiana
- Jonesville, Louisiana

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Louisiana rivers

William Least Heat-Moon, *Roads to Quoz, An American Mosey* (2008), ISBN 978-0-316-11025-9. Section I - "Down an Ancient Valley" describes a trip down the Ouachita River Valley.

External links

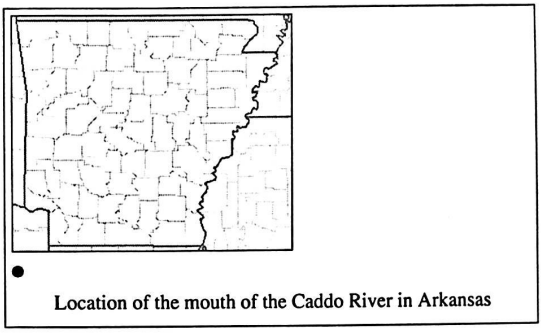
- Upper Ouachita River [2]
- Lower Ouachita River [3]
- Ouachita River Foundation [4]

Caddo River

Caddo River

Geographical coordinates: 34°10′48″N 93°2′36″W

Caddo River	
Country	United States
State	Arkansas
Source	Caddo Mountains
- location	Ouachita Mountains
- elevation	1400 ft (427 m)
- coordinates	34°27′9″N 93°55′22″W
Mouth	Ouachita River
- location	near Arkadelphia, Arkansas
- elevation	144 ft (44 m)
- coordinates	34°10′48″N 93°2′36″W
Length	82 mi (132 km)
Discharge	for USGS gage 07359610, near Caddo Gap, AR
- average	267 cu ft/s (8 m^3/s)
- max	28600 cu ft/s (810 m^3/s)
- min	16 cu ft/s (0 m^3/s)



Location of the mouth of the Caddo River in Arkansas

The **Caddo River** is a tributary of the Ouachita River in the U.S. state of Arkansas. The river is about 82 miles (132 km) long altogther.

Course

The Caddo River flows out of the Ouachita Mountains through Montgomery, Pike, and Clark counties in Arkansas before flowing into DeGray Lake and then to its terminus at the Ouachita River north of Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

The upper Caddo is known as a good family canoeing river and is a popular destination for fishing. Smallmouth and spotted bass are found in quantity, as are longear and green sunfish. The lower course of the Caddo, below Degray Dam, is also a popular fishing and canoeing river, although the length of river remaining is only a few miles at that point.

Communities through which the Caddo River passes are:

- Black Springs, Arkansas
- Norman, Arkansas
- Caddo Gap, Arkansas
- Glenwood, Arkansas
- Amity, Arkansas
- Caddo Valley, Arkansas
- Arkadelphia, Arkansas

Deadly flooding

On the night of June 10-11, 2010, a flash flood along the Caddo and Little Missouri Rivers killed twenty people.

Etymology

The Caddo River is named for the Caddo Indian tribes that, at one time, lived along its banks.

See also

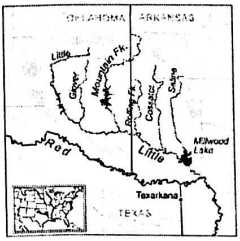
- List of rivers of Arkansas

External links

- Caddo River and DeGray Lake [1]

Cossatot River

Cossatot River

Cossatot River
The Cossatot River near Gillham Lake in Howard County, Arkansas

The Little River watershed

Origin	Ouachita Mountains
Mouth	Gillham Lake, Howard County, Arkansas

The **Cossatot River** is a river in the U.S. state Arkansas.

Cossatot comes from the French cassé-tête which translates roughly to skull crusher. The Cossatot is known as an difficult (class II - IV+) whitewater stream to canoeists and kayakers and a section at Cossatot Falls in Howard County, Arkansas has been called "the most challenging section of whitewater between the Smokies and the Rockies," though there are many more challenging runs in the state of Arkansas, such as Richland Creek, Crooked Creek or the Upper Buffalo (Hailstone run). An 11-mile (18-km) section including Cossatot Falls is designated as the Cossatot River State Park-Natural Area. Cossatot Falls is a series of back-to-back class III-IV+ rapids that drops around 40 feet in 1/8 of a mile. Rapid names are Cossatosser (class II+), Eye Opener, B.M.F. (class III), Washing Machine (class

IV+), Whiplash, (class III+), and Shoulderbone (class II), with Deer Camp Rapid (class III), Devil's Hollow Rapid (class III+), and Devil's Hollow Falls (class IV) located downstream of the Falls area. Zigzag (Class III) and the Esses (class III) are other notable rapids on the Cossatot, located above the Falls. Whitewater rapid classes vary depending on water level. At certain higher levels near flood state, almost all of the Cossatot Falls turn into one long rapid.

The Cossatot begins in the Ouachita Mountains southeast of Mena, Arkansas. The river flows through the Ouachita National Forest and then in a generally southerly direction until it empties into Gillham Lake. After exiting Gillham Lake the river becomes leisurely until it joins with the Little River at the sight where it empties into Millwood Lake.

The World War II fleet oiler USS Cossatot (AO-77) is named after this river.

Camping sites are located near the Cossatot Falls area, and at the nearby Brushy Creek Recreation area.

The Cossatot is listed as a *National Wild and Scenic River* and an *Arkansas Natural and Scenic River.*

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

Spring River (Arkansas)

Spring River (Arkansas)

The **Spring River** is a 57-mile (92-km) long river which flows through the U.S. states of Missouri and Arkansas.

The Spring River consists of two branches, the South Fork of the Spring River and the Spring River proper.

The South Fork of the Spring River starts in Howell County, Missouri and flows south through Fulton and Sharp counties in Arkansas. The South Fork of the Spring River joins the Spring River proper near the town of Hardy, Arkansas. The South Fork is a quiet stream with gravelly bars that are ideal for camping.

The Spring River proper begins at Mammoth Spring located at Mammoth Spring, Arkansas. Mam Spring is the outlet of an underground river that runs from Missouri into Arkansas. Over 9.78 r gallons per hour (10 m^3/s) flow out of the massive spring and forms the Spring River. Being spri the river is extremely cold at a constant 58 °F (14 °C) and very clear.

The Spring River proper is a popular destination for tourists, canoers, and for riding inner tub ("toobers"). The most popular stretch of the river is between Mammoth Spring and the tourist town of Hardy.

Below Hardy, the Spring River flows past Ravenden, Arkansas and Imboden, Arkansas to its confluence with the Eleven Point River near Old Davidsonville State Park. The Spring River joins the Black River near Black Rock, Arkansas.

There are a variety of outfitters along the river who provide supplies, canoe rental, and shuttle services in the area between Mammoth Spring and Hardy. Several resorts provide lodging for the tourist.

The Spring River has a diverse population of fish including trout, walleye, largemouth and smallmouth bass, channel catfish, redear sunfish, and tiger muskies. A state record tiger muskie weighing 23 lb 12 oz (10.8 kg) was caught in the river in 1995. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission maintains a trout hatchery on the river and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service operates another on the river near Mammoth Spring.

The Spring River area has been the subject of several controversies. Property owners on the river and surrounding communities have had their properties repossessed after purchasing them from the Spring River Beach Club. The owner of the Spring River Beach Club took out second mortgages on the properties and did not make the payments forcing the lending banks to foreclose on the properties.

During Memorial Day weekend in 2007, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission began patrolling Spring River looking for patrons and visitors littering and conducting lewdness as many people began complaining of a Mardi Gras-like scene.

Flooding

In March, 2008 a vigorous, slow moving low pressure system moved out of Texas and into Arkansas inundating the area with over a foot of rain falling in some areas of Arkansas and Missouri. Heavy rainfall rates caused the river to over flow its banks and set a new record flood stage in Hardy with an observed maximum depth of 22.29 feet breaking the previous record of 16.75 feet. The mayor of Hardy ordered evacuation of 250 citizens of the town because of dangerous river levels that flooded over 100 buildings in and around the Spring River.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Missouri rivers

External links

- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Spring River [1]

Geographical coordinates: 36°6′53″N 91°4′26″W

Little Red River (Arkansas)

Little Red River (Arkansas)

The **Little Red River** is a river in north-central Arkansas. During the American Civil War the Battle of Whitney's Lane took place near Searcy on the banks of the Little Red.

The upper tributaries of the Little Red River are known as the South Fork, the Middle Fork, and the Devils Fork.

The South Fork begins in the Ozark National Forest near Scotland in Van Buren County and flows into Greers Ferry Lake near Clinton.

The Middle Fork begins only a few miles from the South Fork near Tilly in Van Buren County but flows northward into Searcy County. In Searcy County the river turns east and flows into Stone County where it turns south and flows to meet Greers Ferry Lake in Cleburne County.

The Devils Fork begins in Northeastern Cleburne County, Arkansas, and flows southwest to meet Greers Ferry Lake near Ida, Arkansas.

The three forks converge into the North section of Greers Ferry Lake, which is connected to the South section of the lake by the Narrows, the site of the former Little Red River. The Little Red River begins to flow again at the Army Corps of Engineers hydroelectric dam at Heber Springs.

Below the Dam

The single channel runs from the Greers Ferry Lake Dam to its mouth at the White River near Georgetown, Arkansas. The area around the mouth of the river is within the Henry Gray/Hurricane Lake Wildlife Management Area [1] south of Augusta in White County.

The water level of the lower sections varies greatly because of releases of cold water from the dam at Greers Ferry during power generation. These water releases can be challenging for boaters. The lower section has a varied geography with areas of gravelly rapids, boulder strewn areas, and slow, deep, pools.

The stretch just below the Greers Ferry Dam on the river is well-known for its excellent trout fishing. The US Fish and Wildlife Service maintains a trout hatchery just below the dam and releases large numbers of mature trout regularly. The Little Red River is the home of the world-record brown trout (40 pounds 4 ounces (18.3 kg)).

Because cold water flows from beneath the dam, many native warm-water fish are no longer plentiful. "We had 40 miles of river that was basically worthless," said Tom Lowery of Judsonia, referring to the

section of river between downstream from Pangburn, AR. "It was pretty to look at, but there was no fishing" (quoted in Hambrick). While trout thrive near the dam, the cold water drove out many native species. Largemouth bass, crappie, and bream populations may never return to normal.

However, recent attempts have been made to reintroduce sport fish, such as walleye and smallmouth bass, to the section of the Little Red River near Searcy, AR. Tom Bly (District Fisheries Biologist for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission) noted that the walleye and smallmouth bass were chosen for their coveted taste and renowned fighting abilities, respectively.

Tom Lowery and Bly also mentioned the lack of public access to the river between Pangburn and Searcy and that the recent influx of oil and gas companies to the area may influence this: "We know they are going to drill and they are going to need water, which is a renewable resource," Bly said. "They want to work with us to make it environmentally and resource friendly. They may be able to help find areas for public access. They seem willing to work on that. It's a win-win situation" (quoted in Hambrick).

Carl Garner, in his job as manager of the Little Red River and Greers Ferry Lake, sought participation from the local citizenry to collect trash scattered about the waterways. However, he was without sufficient funding for a staffed cleanup. Eventually, his efforts resulted in the Carl Garner Federal Lands Cleanup Day promoted by Keep America Beautiful.

There is also a Little Red River in Alberta, Canada. Named after the red colour of the water due to red ochre deposits through which it runs. It is a tributary to the Peace river and runs to the east of the Wabasca river. It gives the Little Red River Cree Nation its name.

Work Cited

Hambrick, Pat. "Fishing May Return to Lower Little Red River." The Daily Citizen (Searcy). Online edition. [2] 26 June 2007. accessed 27 June 2007.

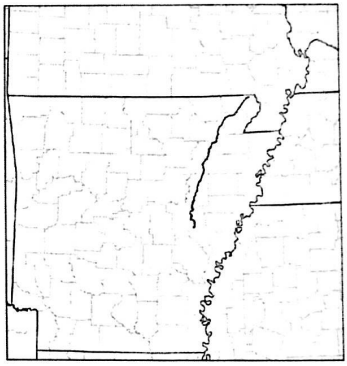
See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

Cache River (Arkansas)

Cache River (Arkansas)

The **Cache River** is a tributary of the White River, 213 mi (343 km) long, in northeastern Arkansas in the United States. Its headwaters also drain a small portion of southeastern Missouri. Via the White River, the Cache is part of the Mississippi River watershed.



The Cache is formed by a confluence of agricultural ditches in Butler County, Missouri and soon enters Arkansas, flowing generally south-southwestwardly. Several portions of the river's upper course have been straightened and channelized. It joins the White River at the town of Clarendon, Arkansas.

The river is a slow muddy river with meandering channels, sloughs, swampy areas, and oxbow lakes.

The name of the river is probably a Picardie word meaning "hunt" as a reference to the abundant wildlife along the river. The first explorer into the area was Father Marquette, for whom Picard was the native tongue.

The low-lying areas in the vicinity of the river's lower course are a popular destination for duck hunters. The Cache River National Wildlife Refuge along the lower river is the largest remaining tract of contiguous bottomland hardwood forest found in North America. The refuge is also the most important wintering area for mallard ducks and other migratory waterfowl on the continent.

The river supports 53 mammalian species, over 200 bird species, and nearly 50 species of reptiles and amphibians. The area has the only remaining population of native black bears in the state. This is also where the ivory-billed woodpecker was recently speculated to have been sighted (after it was believed to be extinct for 60 years).

During the American Civil War, the Battle of Cotton Plant was fought along the Cache River at the town of Cotton Plant.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Missouri rivers

Illinois River (Arkansas)

Illinois River (Arkansas)

Illinois River	
Origin	Ozark Mountains 35°52′02″N 94°18′45″W
Mouth	Arkansas River 35°29′50″N 95°06′17″W
Basin countries	United States

The **Illinois River** is a tributary of the Arkansas River, approximately 100 mi (160 km) long, in the U.S. states of Arkansas and Oklahoma.

It rises in the Ozark Mountains in the northwest corner of Arkansas, in Washington County southwest of Fayetteville, near the town of Hogeye. It flows west into northeast Oklahoma, then southwest and south through the mountains of eastern Oklahoma, past Scraper and Tahlequah. South of Tahlequah, it passes through the reservoir Tenkiller Ferry Lake. It joins the Arkansas at Gore, approximately 20 mi (32 km) southeast of Muskogee. Together with its tributary streams, it has a drainage area of 900 square miles (2330 km²). The town of Tahlequah, Oklahoma on its banks was the western terminus of the Trail of Tears.

The river is a major source of tourism in the area. In 1999, it was estimated to have brought in approximately 500,000 tourists and $9 million to the Oklahoma section of the river.

The upper section is a designated scenic river and home to many native species of bass with spring runs of white bass. It is a popular summertime destination for floaters. The lower section, below Tenkiller Dam, is a designated year-round trout stream, stocked with Rainbow and Brown Trout. The State record of Rainbow trout was caught in the cold tail water.

Environmental issues

The river is currently the source of a controversy between the two states, with Oklahoma blaming Arkansas for pollution in the river, most notoriously phosphorus contamination by sewage and poultry farm runoff. In December 2003, an agreement was reached between the two states, with Arkansas agreeing to reduce phosphorus output from its waste water treatment plants by 75% over the next ten years, although it does not address poultry-farm runoff.

See also

- List of rivers in Arkansas
- List of rivers in Oklahoma

External links

- Illinois River information, photos and video on TravelOK.com [1] Official travel and tourism website for the State of Oklahoma
- State of Oklahoma: Illinois Basin Water Quality Report [2] (PDF)
- USGS National Water Information System: [3] - current water levels
- Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture - Illinois River [4]

Geographical coordinates: 36°01′53″N 94°55′09″W

Current River (Missouri)

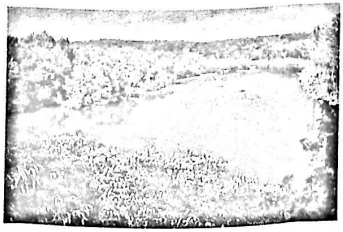
Current River (Missouri)

Current River	
River	
Country	United States
States	Missouri, Arkansas
Regions	Ozark Plateau, Mississippi Alluvial Plain
Tributaries	
- left	Sinking Creek, Little Black River, Welch Spring
- right	Big Creek, Jacks Fork River, Big Spring
Cities	Van Buren, Doniphan, Missouri
Source	Pigeon Creek
- location	Montauk State Park, Dent County, Ozark Plateau, Missouri
- elevation	1450 ft (442 m)
Mouth	Black River
- location	Pocahontas, Arkansas, Randolph County, Mississippi Alluvial Plain, Arkansas
- elevation	280 ft (85 m)
Length	184 mi (296 km)
Basin	2641 sq mi (6840 km²)
Discharge	for Doniphan, Missouri
- average	2772 cu ft/s (78 m^3/s)
- max	130000 cu ft/s (3681 m^3/s)

Map of major Missouri Rivers

The **Current River** forms in the southeastern portion of the Ozarks of Missouri and becomes a 7th order stream as it flows southeasterly out of the Ozarks into northeastern Arkansas where it becomes a tributary of the Black River, which is a tributary of the White River, a tributary of the Mississippi River. The Current River is approximately 184 miles (296 km) long and drains about 2641 square miles (6840 km^2) of land mostly in Missouri and a small portion of land in northeastern Arkansas. The headwaters of the Current River are nearly 900 feet (270 m) above sea level, while the mouth of the river lies around 280 feet (85 m) above sea level. The basin drains a rural area that is dominated by karst topography, underlain by limestone bedrock with a small area of igneous rock southeast of Eminence, Missouri. The annual daily mean discharge of the river near Doniphan, Missouri is 2815 cubic feet (79.7 m^3) per second. In 1964, over 134 mi (160 km) of the upper course of the river and its tributaries were federally protected as the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, the first national park in America to protect a river system.

Canoers on the swift, clear upper Current below Welch Spring



Current River near Doniphan

The Current River begins in Montauk State Park located in the southwestern corner of Dent County in southeastern Missouri. The confluence of Pigeon Creek and Montauk Spring form the headwaters of the river. Montauk Spring makes up most of the consistent flow of the headwaters, providing ideal conditions for trout fishing. After leaving

Current River near Doniphan

Montauk State Park the river enters the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. The uppermost reaches of the river are swift with numerous riffles broken by deep pools of crystal clear water, further downstream the riffles continue but get further apart. Hardwood trees, rock ledges, caves, springs, gravel bars, and towering limestone bluffs line the banks of the river. Welch Spring, a first magnitude spring, enters the river approximately 14 miles (23 km) downstream from the headwaters, nearly doubling the flow of the river. Other notable springs to add to the river include Cave Spring, Pulltite Spring, and Round Spring. Downstream from the headwaters approximately 52 miles (84 km) the Current River receives its largest tributary the Jacks Fork River from the west near the small town of Eminence, Missouri. Blue Spring, another first magnitude spring, empties into the river, 9 miles (14 km) downstream from the confluence with the Jacks Fork River. The Current river is approximately 86 miles (138 km) long when it passes by the town of Van Buren, Missouri and under U.S. Highway 60. South of Van Buren a few miles the Current River receives the largest spring in the Ozarks and one of the largest single spring outlets known in the world. Big Spring empties into the river providing nearly 465 cubic feet (13.2 m^3) of water per second. From Big Spring the river continues southeasterly leaving the Ozark National Scenic Riverways 105 miles (169 km) from the headwaters. The river then flows through Mark Twain National Forest until reaching Doniphan, Missouri and passes under U.S. Highway 160. From here the river slows as it exits the Ozark Highlands, the river continues its slow silt laden path into Arkansas where it receives the Little Black River from the northeast before it joins the Black River near Pocahontas, Arkansas.

Canoeing, fishing, horseback riding, and camping are very popular activities along the Current River. The river is fairly gentle and is considered to have mostly class 1 rapids, and a couple class 2.

Some of the points of interest along the course of the river include: Montauk State Park (trout park), Welch Spring and Hospital, Aker's Ferry, Cave Spring, Devil's Well, Rock House Cave, Pulltite Spring, Round Spring, Jacks Fork River, Blue Spring, Rocky Falls (on small tributary), and Big Spring.

See also

- List of Missouri rivers
- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Ozark springs

References

- *Stars Upstream: Life Along an Ozark River*, Leonard Hall, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1959 ISBN 0826200745
- *Missouri Ozark Waterways*, Oz Hawksley, Missouri Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, 1965, Revised 1989 Conservation Commission of the State of Missouri
- *Springs of Missouri*, Vineyard and Feder, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geology and Land Survey in cooperation with U.S. Geological Survey and Missouri Department of Conservation, 1982

External links

- Ozark National Scenic Riverways [1]
- Missouri Scenic Rivers [2]
- Information compiled by the Missouri Department of Conservation [3]
- Discharge of Big Spring, USGS [4]

(1981-2006)

St. Francis River

St. Francis River

Geographical coordinates: 34°37′28″N 90°35′31″W

Saint Francis River	
River	
The St. Francis River at Lake City, Arkansas is placid and silt-laden.	
Country	United States
States	Missouri, Arkansas
Regions	Ozark Plateau, Mississippi Alluvial Plain
Districts	St. Francois Mountains, Crowleys Ridge
Tributaries	
- left	Little St. Francis River, Twelvemile Creek, Blue Spring, Mingo Ditch, Little River
- right	Stouts Creek, Marble Creek, Big Creek, Otter Creek, L'Anguille River
Cities	Farmington, Missouri, Fisk, Missouri, Marked Tree, Arkansas
Source	Elephant Rocks State Park
- location	Iron County, St. Francois Mountains, Ozark Plateau, Missouri
- elevation	1568 ft (478 m)
Mouth	Mississippi River
- location	Helena, Arkansas, Randolph County, Mississippi Alluvial Plain, Arkansas
- elevation	171 ft (52 m)
- coordinates	34°37′28″N 90°35′31″W
Length	425 mi (684 km)

Basin	7550 sq mi (19554 km²)

Map of the St. Francis River watershed. The Castor/Whitewater headwaters (darker shade on the map) were historically part of the St. Francis watershed but are now diverted to the Mississippi.

The **Saint Francis River** is a tributary of the Mississippi River, about 470 mi (760 km) long, in southeastern Missouri and northeastern Arkansas in the United States. The river drains a mostly rural area and forms part of the Missouri-Arkansas state line along the western side of the Missouri bootheel.

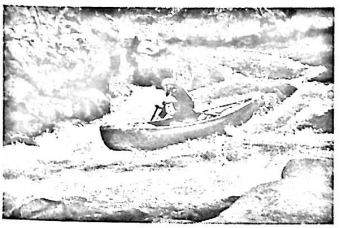
Description and course

The river rises in a region of granite mountains in Iron County, Missouri, and flows generally southwardly through the Ozarks and the St. Francois Mountains near Missouri's highest point Taum Sauk. It forms the Missouri-Arkansas border in the bootheel and eventually exits the state at Missouri's lowest point in the "toe" at 241 feet. It passes through Lake Wappapello, which is formed by a dam constructed in 1941. Below the dam the river meanders through cane forests and willow swamplands, transitioning from a clear stream into a slow and silt-laden muddy river as it enters the flat lands of the Mississippi embayment. In its lower course the river parallels Crowleys Ridge and is part of a navigation and flood-control project involving a network of diversion channels and ditches along it and the Castor and Little Rivers. Below the mouth of the Little River in Poinsett County, Arkansas, the St. Francis is navigable by barge. It joins the Mississippi River in Phillips County, Arkansas, about 7 mi (11 km) north of Helena.

Along its course in Missouri the river flows through the Mark Twain National Forest and past Sam A. Baker State Park and the towns of Farmington, Greenville and Fisk. In Arkansas it passes the towns of St. Francis, Lake City, Marked Tree and Parkin, as well as the St. Francis National Forest.

In addition to the Little River, tributaries of the St. Francis include the Little St. Francis River, which joins it along its upper course in Missouri; the Tyronza River, which joins it in Arkansas; and the L'Anguille River, which joins it just above its mouth.

Whitewater competitions



Missouri Whitewater Championships, 2008

Beginning in 1967 the Missouri Whitewater Championships have been held on the St. Francis River (typically between the Millstream Gardens Conservation Area and the Silver Mines Recreation Area). The events includes whitewater slalom competitions and downriver whitewater racing competitions. Today, the Missouri Whitewater Association holds the Championships annually in March, and recently celebrated the 40th year of Missouri Whitewater Championships on the St. Francis River.

Names

The origin of the river's name is unclear. It might refer to St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of the Franciscan order. None of the region's early explorers were Franciscans, however. One possibility is that Jacques Marquette, a Jesuit, named the river when he explored its mouth in 1673. Before his voyage down the Mississippi Marquette had spent some time at the mission of St. Francois Xavier, named for the Jesuit missionary Francis Xavier. The spelling of the river's name shifted from "Francois" to "Francis" in the early 20th century. A number of place names in the region stem from the river's name, including Saint Francois County and the St. Francois Mountains

The United States Board on Geographic Names settled on "St. Francis River" as the stream's name in 1899. According to the Geographic Names Information System, historical names for the river have included:

- Cholohollay River
- El Rio San Francisco
- Fiume San Francesco
- Rio San Francisco
- Riviere Saint Francis
- Riviere des Chepoussea
- San Francisco River
- Saint Francois River (mentioned in the Congressional act which set the boundaries for the state including the Bootheel in Missouri)

The St. Francis River rises in the granite mountains of the eastern Ozarks where it is a clear, rapid stream.

Silver Mine Dam on the upper St. Francis River

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Missouri rivers
- River borders of U.S. states

External links

- Columbia Gazetteer of North America entry [1]
- DeLorme (2004). *Arkansas Atlas & Gazetteer.* Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-345-1.
- DeLorme (2002). *Missouri Atlas & Gazetteer.* Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-353-2.
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: St. Francis River [2]
- The Missouri Whitewater Championships [3]
- Maps of Former St. Francis Lake in Northeast Arkansas [4]

List of rivers of Arkansas

List of rivers of Arkansas

List of rivers in Arkansas (U.S. state).

For a list of dams and reservoirs in Arkansas, see List of Arkansas dams and reservoirs

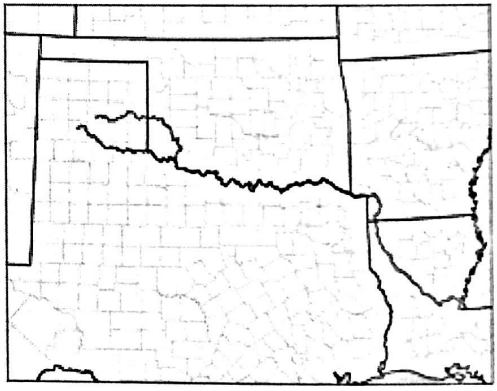
By Drainage Basin

This list is arranged by drainage basin, with respective tributaries indented under each larger stream's name.

Mississippi River

Red River

- Mississippi River
  - Red River
    - *Black River (LA)*
      - *Tensas River (LA)*
        - Bayou Macon
      - Ouachita River
        - Boeuf River
        - *Bayou D'Arbonne (LA)*
          - Cornie Bayou
        - Bayou Bartholomew
        - Saline River
          - Hurricane Creek
        - Moro Creek
        - Smackover Creek
        - Little Missouri River
          - Terre Noire Creek
          - Terre Rouge Creek
          - Antoine River



Red River Drainage Basin

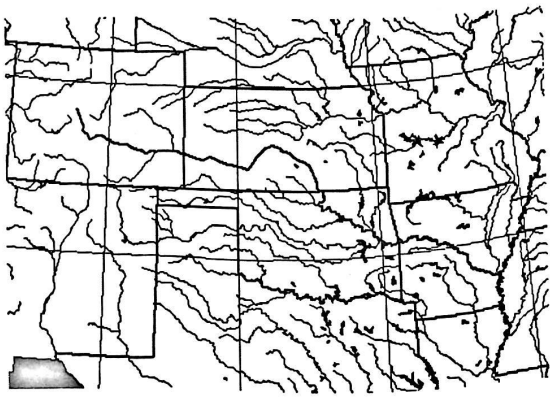
- Caddo River
- *Loggy Bayou (LA)*
  - *Flat River (LA)*
    - *Red Chute Bayou (LA)*
      - Bodcau Bayou and Creek
    - Bayou Dorcheat
  - Sulphur River
  - McKinney Bayou
  - Little River
    - Saline River
    - Cossatot River
      - Little Cossatot River
    - Rolling Fork

Ouachita Drainage Basin

- Mountain Fork

Arkansas River

- Mississippi River
  - Arkansas River
    - Bayou Meto
    - Little Maumelle River
    - Maumelle River
    - Fourche La Fave River
      - South Fourche La Fave River
    - Cadron Creek
    - Point Remove Creek
    - Petit Jean River
    - Illinois Bayou
    - Piney Creek

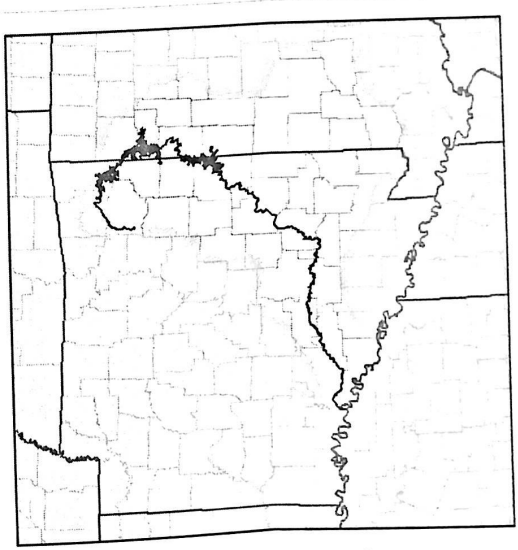


Arkansas River

- Mulberry River
- Poteau River
- Lee Creek
- Illinois River
- *Neosho River (OK)*
  - *Elk River (OK)*
    - Little Sugar Creek
      - Tanyard Creek

White River

- Mississippi River
  - White River
    - La Grue Bayou
    - Big Creek
    - Cache River
      - Bayou De View
    - Bayou des Arc
    - Little Red River
    - Village Creek
    - Black River
      - Strawberry River
        - Little Strawberry River
      - Spring River
        - Eleven Point River
      - Fourche River
      - Current River
        - Little Black River
      - North Fork River
        - Bennetts River
      - Buffalo River
        - Little Buffalo River
      - Crooked Creek
      - Kings River



White River Drainage Basin

St. Francis River

- Mississippi River
  - St. Francis River
    - L'Anguille River
    - Tyronza River
    - Little River

Alphabetically

- Antoine River
- Arkansas River
- Bayou des Arc
- Bennetts River
- Black River
- Boeuf River
- Buffalo River (Buffalo National River)
- Cache River
- Caddo River
- Cossatot River
- Current River
- Eleven Point River
- Fourche River
- Fourche La Fave River
- Illinois River
- Kings River
- L'Anguille River
- Little Antoine River
- Little Black River
- Little Buffalo River
- Little Cossatot River
- Little Maumelle River
- Little Missouri River
- Little Red River
- Little River in northeastern Arkansas, a tributary of the St. Francis River
- Little River in southwestern Arkansas, a tributary of the Red River
- Little Strawberry River
- Maumelle River
- Mississippi River

- Mountain Fork
- Mulberry River
- North Fork River
- Ouachita River
- Petit Jean River
- Poteau River
- Red River
- Rolling Fork
- St. Francis River
- Saline River in southwestern Arkansas, a tributary of the Little River
- Saline River in southern Arkansas, a tributary of the Ouachita River
- Spring River
- Strawberry River
- Sulphur River
- Tyronza River
- White River

References

- USGS Geographic Names Information Service [1]
- USGS Hydrologic Unit Map - State of Arkansas (1974)

See also

- List of rivers in the United States

Fourche La Fave River

Fourche La Fave River

Geographical coordinates: 34°57′57″N 92°34′54″W

Fourche La Fave River	
River	
Country	United States
State	Arkansas
Source	Scott County, Arkansas
- coordinates	34°46′08″N 94°09′33″W
Mouth	Bigelow, Arkansas
- coordinates	34°57′57″N 92°34′54″W
Length	140 mi (225 km)

The **Fourche La Fave River** (Foosh La Fay) is a tributary of the Arkansas River, approximately 140 mi (225 km) long, in western Arkansas in the United States. It drains part of the northern Ouachita Mountains west of Little Rock.

Course

It rises in southern Scott County south of Waldron and flows ENE through the Ouachita National Forest, along the southern side of the Dutch Creek Mountain ridge, then along the north side of the Fourche Mountain ridge. It flows past Perryville and joins the Arkansas from the west approximately 25 mi (40 km) northwest of Little Rock. It is impounded by the Nimrod Dam at Fourche Junction to form Nimrod Lake for flood control. It is joined by the South Fourche La Fave River west of Perryville.

External links

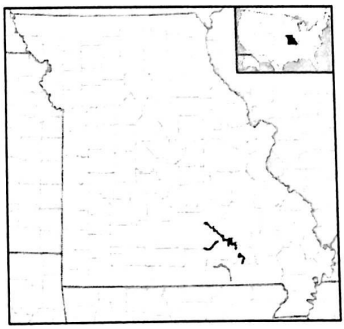
- Nimrod Lake [1]
- Topographic Map of a section of the Fourche Lafave River [2]

Eleven Point River

Eleven Point River

Eleven Point River	
River	
Country	United States
States	Missouri, Arkansas
Regions	Ozark Plateau, Mississippi Alluvial Plain
Tributaries	
- left	Spring Creek, Hurricane Creek
- right	Middle Creek, Greer Spring, Frederick Creek, Blue Spring
Cities	Willow Springs, Thomasville
Source	
- location	Willow Springs, Howell County, Ozark Plateau, Missouri
Mouth	Spring River
- location	Black Rock, Arkansas, Randolph County, Mississippi Alluvial Plain, Arkansas

The **Eleven Point River** is in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas, United States. It originates near Willow Springs, Missouri. It more than doubles in flow when Greer Spring Branch runs into it, adding over 200 million gallons of water per day to the river. The name derives from the Mississippi Valley French word *pointe*, which is a wooded point of land marking a river bend. *Voyageurs* marked distance by counting these points of land or river bends. The river flows into the Spring River southwest of Pocahontas near the small town of Black Rock.



Location of the **Eleven Point Wild and Scenic River** shown in green; nearby Ozark National Scenic Riverways in red

In 1968 a 44.4-mile stretch was named the Eleven Point National Wild and Scenic River, one of the original eight rivers chosen to be part of the United States National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

See also

- List of Missouri rivers
- Irish Wilderness
- List of Arkansas rivers

External links

- Eleven Point River Resource Page [1]
- National Park Service [2]
- Eleven Point River Conservancy [3]

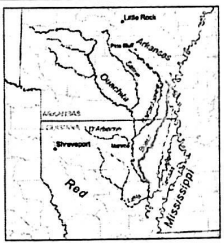
Geographical coordinates: 36°9′3″N 91°4′57″W

Boeuf River

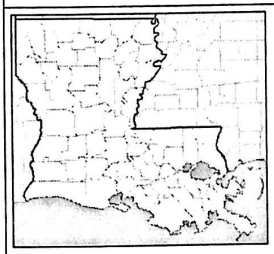
Boeuf River

Geographical coordinates: 31°51′25″N 91°47′9″W

Boeuf River	
Country	United States
State	Arkansas
Source	Near Lake Village
- elevation	110 ft (34 m)
- coordinates	33°19′49″N 91°21′49″W
Mouth	Ouachita River
- location	near Enterprise, Louisiana
- elevation	33 ft (10 m)
- coordinates	31°51′25″N 91°47′9″W
Length	155 mi (249 km)
Discharge	for USGS gage 07368000, near Girard, LA
- average	281 cu ft/s (8 m^3/s)
- max	2980 cu ft/s (84 m^3/s)
- min	0 cu ft/s (0 m^3/s)



Location of the Boeuf River within the Ouachita watershed



Location of the mouth of the Boeuf River in Louisiana

The **Boeuf River** is a tributary of the Ouachita River in the U.S. states of Arkansas and Louisiana. The river is about 155 miles (249 km) long altogther.

The Boeuf River's name comes from the French word *bœuf*, which means "bull".

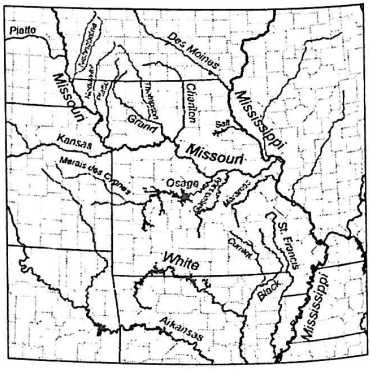
See also

- List of rivers of Arkansas
- List of rivers of Louisiana

Black River (Arkansas)

Black River (Arkansas)

The **Black River** is a tributary of the White River, about 300 mi (480 km) long [1], in southeastern Missouri and northeastern Arkansas in the United States. Via the White River, it is part of the Mississippi River watershed. Black River Technical College is named for the river.



Map of major Missouri rivers

Headwaters and course

The Black River rises in Missouri as three streams:

- The **East Fork Black River** rises in Iron County and flows generally southwardly, through Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park where the Taum Sauk pumped storage plant Upper Reservoir dam breach caused severe damage to the Park. A dam on the East Fork to forms **the Taum Sauk Lower Reservoir** which was used to pump water to the Upper Reservoir.
- The **Middle Fork Black River** is formed by a confluence of creeks in the Mark Twain National Forest in northern Reynolds County and flows generally southeastwardly.
- The **West Fork Black River** is formed by a confluence of creeks in the Mark Twain National Forest in western Reynolds County and flows generally westwardly, past the town of Centerville.

The headwaters forks converge near Lesterville, and the Black River flows generally southwardly through Reynolds, Wayne and Butler Counties in Missouri; and Clay, Randolph and Lawrence Counties in Arkansas. In its lowermost course the river is used to define the boundary between Independence and Jackson Counties. It flows past the towns of Mill Spring, Williamsville and Poplar Bluff (the largest city along its course) in Missouri; and Pocahontas, Black Rock, and Powhatan in Arkansas. It joins the White River at Jacksonport, Arkansas.

Dams

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dam in Wayne County, Missouri, causes the river to form Clearwater Lake.

Tributaries

In Arkansas, the Black River is joined by the Little Black River, the Current River, the Spring River and the Strawberry River.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Missouri rivers

External links

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clearwater Lake website [2]
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Black River [3]

Geographical coordinates: 35°38′24″N 91°19′18″W

Antoine River

Antoine River

The **Antoine River** is a tributary of the Little Missouri River in southwestern Arkansas in the United States. Via the Little Missouri, Ouachita and Red Rivers, it is part of the watershed of the Mississippi River. According to GNIS, it has also been known as **Antoine Creek**. A short headwater tributary of the river is known as the **Little Antoine River**.

Course

The Antoine River rises in northeastern Pike County about 10 mi (16 km) west-southwest of Amity and flows generally south-southeastwardly, past the town of Antoine. For most of its course the river forms the boundary between Pike County and ClarkCounty. The Antoine River joins the Little Missouri River about 3 mi (5 km) southwest of Okolona. For most of its length, the Antoine River crosses the Athens Piedmont Plateau, a series of east-west ridges that serve as the foothills of the Ouachita Mountains. The Antoine River is notable for rapid changes in water level after rains. It is primarily a clear and rocky stream, the last free-flowing river of any size in the Athens Plateau that has not been dammed.

Tributaries

Most tributaries of the Antoine River are small rocky streams that flow in from the west. These include Wall Creek, Woodall Creek, Camp Creek, Suck Creek, and Wolf Creek on the west, and Little Antoine Creek, Mathews Creek and Brushy Creek on the east. The largest tributary of the Antoine River is Wolf Creek in southern Pike County.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

References

- DeLorme (2004). *Arkansas Atlas & Gazetteer*. Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-345-1.
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Antoine River [1]

L'Anguille River

L'Anguille River

L'Anguille River (pronounced "lan-GWEEL" or locally "LANG-gill") is a tributary of the St. Francis River, approximately 110 mi (175 km) long, in northeastern Arkansas in the United States. Via the St. Francis River, it is part of the Mississippi River watershed.

"Anguille" means "eel" in French.

The L'Anguille River at Palestine, Arkansas

Course

The L'Anguille is formed south of Jonesboro in southern Craighead County by a confluence of agricultural ditches; several portions of the river's upper course have been straightened and channelized. The river flows generally southward through Poinsett, Cross, St. Francis and Lee Counties, parallel to Crowley's Ridge and past the towns of Palestine and Marianna. It joins the St. Francis River in eastern Lee County, not far above that river's confluence with the Mississippi River. A diversion ditch routes a portion of the St. Francis River's flow to the lowermost course of the L'Anguille.

At Marianna, the L'Anguille River crosses Crowley's Ridge, providing the only break in the ridge.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

References

- Columbia Gazetteer of North America entry [1]
- DeLorme (2004). *Arkansas Atlas & Gazetteer*. Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-345-1.
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: L'Anguille River [2], retrieved 6 February 2006

Strawberry River (Arkansas)

The **Strawberry River** is a tributary of the Black River, about 90 mi (145 km) long, in northern Arkansas in the United States. Via the Black and White Rivers, it is part of the watershed of the Mississippi River.

The Strawberry River rises in eastern Fulton County and flows generally southeastwardly through Izard, Sharp and Lawrence Counties; it joins the Black River in the northeastern extremity of Independence County, 10 mi (16 km) north of Tuckerman. A minor headwater tributary of the Strawberry River is known as the **Little Strawberry River**.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

Beautiful river, full of life.

References

- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Strawberry River [1]

Poteau River

The **Poteau River** is a river in the U.S. states of Arkansas and Oklahoma and is the only river in Oklahoma that flows south. Poteau is the French word for "post" and it is believed the river was named because French explorers used a post or stake to mark the mouth of the river. The city of Poteau, Oklahoma shares the name of the river. The Poteau River converges with the Arkansas River at Belle Point at Fort Smith, Arkansas, where it serves as a border between the two states for a short distance.

The Poteau River near Panama, Oklahoma

Wooden bridge with trusses on the Poteau River in Le Flore County, Oklahoma

References

- *U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Poteau River* [1]

Mountain Fork

Mountain Fork

Mountain Fork, also known as the **Mountain Fork of the Little River**, is a tributary of the Little River, 95 mi (153 km) long, in western Arkansas and southeastern Oklahoma in the United States. Via the Little and Red Rivers, it is part of the watershed of the Mississippi River.

Map of the Little River watershed showing the Mountain Fork

Course

It rises in Le Flore County, Oklahoma, in the Ouachita Mountains, and flows southeastwardly into Polk County, Arkansas, then southwestwardly into McCurtain County, Oklahoma, where it turns southward for the remainder of its course. It joins the Little River in McCurtain County, 10 mi (16 km) southeast of Broken Bow.

In its upper course, the river flows through a portion of the Ouachita National Forest. In McCurtain County, the river is dammed to form Broken Bow Lake.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Oklahoma rivers

External links

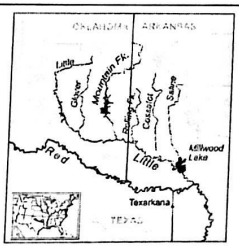
- Broken Bow Lake website [1]
- Fly Fishing on the Mountain Fork River [2]

References

- Columbia Gazetteer of North America [3]
- DeLorme (2004). *Arkansas Atlas & Gazetteer*. Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-345-1.
- DeLorme (2003). *Oklahoma Atlas & Gazetteer*. Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-283-8.
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Mountain Fork [4]

Saline River (Little River)

Saline River (Little River)

Saline River	
 Map of the Little River watershed showing the Saline River	
Origin	Ouachita Mountains
Mouth	Millwood Lake, Little River
Basin countries	United States
Length	334 km (204 mi)
Source elevation	79 m (259 ft)

The **Saline River** is a tributary of the Little River in southwestern Arkansas in the United States. Via the Little and Red Rivers, it is part of the watershed of the Mississippi River.

It rises in the Ouachita Mountains in southeastern Polk County, in the Ouachita National Forest, and flows generally southwardly through Howard County and along Howard County's boundary with Sevier County, through Dierks Lake, which is formed by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dam. It enters the Little River as part of Millwood Lake, which is formed by another USACE dam on the Little River.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

External links

- Dierks Lake website [1]
- Millwood Lake website [2]

References

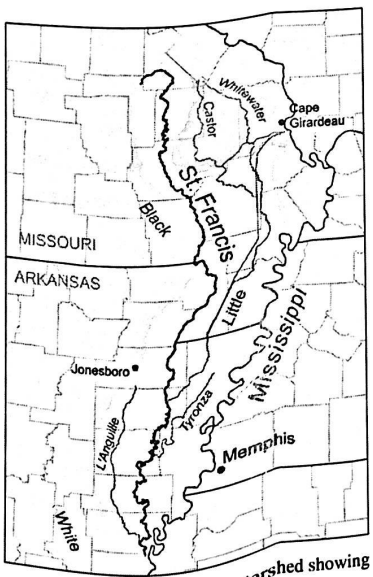
- DeLorme (2004). *Arkansas Atlas & Gazetteer*. Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 978-0-89933-345-8.
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Saline River [3]
- The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture [4]

Little River (St. Francis River)

Little River (St. Francis River)

The **Little River** is a tributary of the St. Francis River, about 70 mi (115 km) long, in southeastern Missouri and northeastern Arkansas in the United States. Via the St. Francis, it is part of the watershed of the Mississippi River.

The Little River's upper course in Missouri has been greatly altered by channelization practices. It originally collected the waters of the Castor and Whitewater Rivers, but these streams' outlets have been diverted to the Mississippi River by the Headwater Diversion Channel and other drainage systems, and the Little River's course through the Missouri bootheel has been diverted to a canal, though traces of its original course still exist. In Arkansas the river passes through the Big Lake National Wildlife Refuge and joins the St. Francis River at Marked Tree.



Map of the St. Francis River watershed showing Little River. The Castor/Whitewater headwaters (darker shade on the map) were historically part of the St. Francis watershed via Little River but are now diverted to the Mississippi.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers
- List of Missouri rivers

External links

- Big Lake National Wildlife Refuge website [1]

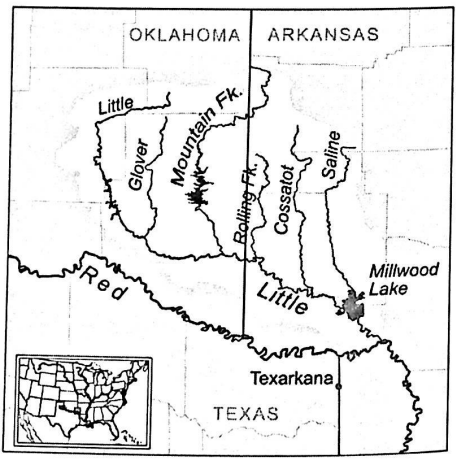
References

- Columbia Gazetteer of North America entry [2]
- DeLorme (2004). *Arkansas Atlas & Gazetteer.* Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-345-1.
- DeLorme (2002). *Missouri Atlas & Gazetteer.* Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme. ISBN 0-89933-353-2.
- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Little River [3]

Rolling Fork (Arkansas)

Rolling Fork (Arkansas)

Rolling Fork is a river in southwest Arkansas. It is dammed by DeQueen Dam and forms DeQueen Lake. It is part of the Mississippi watershed. Rolling Fork runs parallel with the Cossatot River, the Saline River, and the Mountain Fork.



Map of the Little River watershed showing the Rolling Fork

Course

Rolling Fork starts near Hatton, Arkansas. It flows south through Wickes and Grannis. About ten miles from its source Rolling Fork dumps into DeQueen Lake. Near Chapel Hill and DeQueen, Arkansas Rolling Fork exits out of the lake and continues until it reaches Little River.

See also

List of Arkansas rivers

External links

- DeQueen Lake Website [1]

References

- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Rolling Fork [2]

Fourche River

Fourche River

Geographical coordinates: 36°16′04″N 90°57′00″W

Fourche River	
River	
Country	United States
State	Arkansas
Source	near Poynor, Missouri
- coordinates	36°31′00″N 90°57′01″W
Mouth	Pocahontas, Arkansas
- coordinates	36°16′04″N 90°57′00″W
Length	20 mi (32 km)

The **Fourche River** is a minor tributary of the Black River located in Northeast Arkansas and ending in Randolph County, Arkansas near Pocahontas, where it enters the Black River. The Fourche River flows for 20 miles in Missouri and Arkansas. The Fourche River is often confused with the Fourche La Fave River that joins the Arkansas River near Bigelow, Arkansas and is also often confused with Fourche Creek south of Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Fourche River was first called Little Creek and is known as a good fishing stream.

The Fourche River flows for 20 miles, with a maximum elevation of 735 feet and a minimum elevation of 249 feet and drains a watershed of 119.31 square miles.

External links

- http://watersheds.cast.uark.edu/reports/pdf/1101000901soils_sub.pdf

James Fork

The **James Fork** is a river in the U.S. states of Arkansas and Oklahoma, forming on the north slope of Poteau Mountain in the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas and flowing north and west into the Poteau River near Panama, Oklahoma. The settlements of Hartford, Midland, and Hackett, Arkansas are on or near the river. Portions of the Mansfield Branch of the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway and the main line of the Midland Valley Railroad were built alongside the river.

References

- United States Geological Survey topographic maps

Sulphur River

The **Sulphur River** is a river in northeast Texas and southwest Arkansas in the United States.

Geography

The Sulphur River begins in eastern Delta County, Texas, at the confluence of its north and south forks. This merger is about 5 miles (8 km) northeast of the town of Sulphur Bluff and about 95 miles (152 km) northeast of Dallas.

The river flows generally eastward through several Texas counties and provides most of the water for Wright Patman Lake, on the border between Bowie and Cass counties. Below Wright Patman Dam, the river continues its generally eastward flow to the Arkansas state line. The river flows southeastward through Miller County in southwestern Arkansas for 15 miles (24 km) until it joins the southbound Red River east of Doddridge, AR, a few miles above the Louisiana border.

Recreation

The Sulphur River provides numerous opportunities for fishing, boating, and other activities.

Above Wright Patman Lake, the river has enough water for recreation most of the time. The flow is slow, and the river is murky, largely due to channelization upstream. Below Wright Patman Dam, the river flow depends on the amount of water being released from the dam; however, water quality is usually good.

Wright Patman Lake provides additional opportunities for camping, boating, swimming, and fishing.

External links

- Sulphur River Basin Authority [1]
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: An Analysis of Texas Waterways [2]
- Sulphur River [3] from the *Handbook of Texas Online*

Bayou des Arc

Bayou des Arc

Bayou des Arc is a river in Arkansas. It is a tributary of the White River, into which it flows near the city of Des Arc in Prairie County, Arkansas. It rises in northwest White County, Arkansas, near the town of Rose Bud.

External links

- U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Bayou des Arc [1]

Geographical coordinates: 35°0′18″N 91°29′51″W

North Fork River (Missouri–Arkansas)

North Fork River (Missouri–Arkansas)

The **North Fork River** or the **North Fork of White River** is a tributary of the White River, into which it flows near Norfork, Arkansas.

It rises in Wright County, Missouri, southeast of the city of Mountain Grove and flows generally southwards through Douglas and Ozark counties. It flows through Mark Twain National Forest and gathers the waters of many streams including its major tributary, Bryant Creek. The watershed includes major portions of eastern Douglas and Ozark counties and includes portions of Webster, Wright, Texas and Howell counties in Missouri.

South of Tecumseh, Missouri, the river becomes Norfork Lake, a reservoir created by Norfork Dam in Baxter County, Arkansas. A few miles below the dam, the North Fork River joins the White River near the town of Norfork, Arkansas. The part of the river below the Norfork Dam is called the Norfork Tailwater and is a trout fishing stream.

External links

- Norfork Lake Chamber of Commerce [1]
- http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnispublic/f?p=gnispq:3:::NO::P3_FID:77861
- Map of the North Fork watershed [2]
- Map of Bryant Creek watershed, major tributary of the North Fork [3]

Lee Creek (Arkansas)

Lee Creek (Arkansas)

Lee Creek is a small river in Arkansas which starts near West Fork in Washington County and flows south to the Arkansas River passing through Crawford County near the Arkansas-Oklahoma state line.

External links

- Southwest Paddler - Lee Creek, Arkansas [1]

Lee Creek flows from Arkansas into Oklahoma, then returns to Arkansas before its confluence with the Arkansas River near Van Buren, Arkansas.

Lee Creek is also known as Lee's Creek, mostly in Oklahoma where it is classified by the State of Oklahoma as a State Scenic River. In Arkansas upstream of the Oklahoma border, Lee Creek is classified by the State of Arkansas as an Extraordinary Resource Waterway.

Norfork Tailwater

Below the Norfork Dam in north central Arkansas lies the **Norfork Tailwater** (named for the dam itself). Near Salesville, Arkansas, the Norfork Tailwater is about 4.8 miles long and stretches from the dam below Lake Norfork to the White River. The Norfork Tailwater is home to brown, rainbow, cutthroat, and brook trout, as well as other fish. A trout hatchery (the Norfork National Fish Hatchery) near Quarry Park keeps the tailwater stocked with trout, while the dam's cold water output provides suitable habitat for these cool-water game fish.

2008 Flood

On April 10, 2008, the Army Corp of Engineers opened the dam floodgates. The mass of water changed the river's depth in some places, and boaters and waders should use caution.

Access

The tailwater can be accessed in a few locations. Access is free below the dam, off SR 117. There are also a few private boat ramps and other properties that can be used to access the river with permission.

Bayou Macon

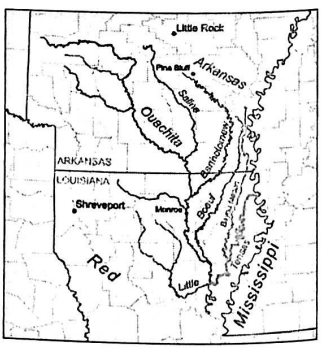
Bayou Macon

Bayou Macon is a river in Arkansas and Louisiana, United States. It begins in Desha County, Arkansas and flows south, between the Boeuf River to its west and the Mississippi River to its east, before joining the Tensas River south of Delhi, Louisiana. Bayou Macon is about 145 miles (233 km) long.

L.D. Knox of Winnsboro, known too an as perennial Louisiana political candidate, owned some 1400 acres (5.7 km^2) about Bayou Macon, land which he hand cleared and cultivated in what he considered to have been an aberrant but advanced style of agriculture.

External links

- Columbia Encyclopedia entry [1]
- Bayou Macon watershed -- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [2]
- Bayou Macon watershed -- Arkansas Natural Resources Commission [3]
- Bayou Macon Wildlife Management Area (Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries) [4]



Map of the Tensas River basin, including Bayou Macon

Sager Creek

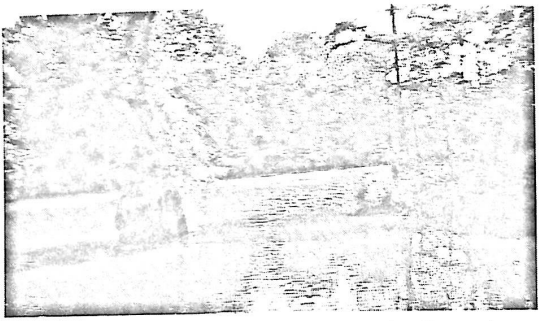
Sager Creek

Sager Creek is a small creek which runs through downtown Siloam Springs, Arkansas, the United States. It is named after the man largely thought to be the founder of Siloam Springs, Simon Sager.

Simon Sager was the eldest member of the Sager children. The Sager family was a family of farmers from Tennessee that migrated into the Arkansas Territory. They crossed the delta into the Ozark Mountains. It is uncertain as to whether the parents contracted illness and died along the way or if they were killed by Osage Indians. The eldest of the children Simon continued on the journey westward guiding his siblings. Much of the trek was made on raft along the White River and its tributaries and across land. Eventually the clan made its way towards the plains and rafted the then uncharted Osage Creek into a tributary that was eventually named after its first white explorer Simon Sager. The children stopped along the creek and built a cabin and farmed the area near the town of Hico that eventually became the town of Siloam Springs Arkansas, named after the healing pool of water in the Bible. Siloam Springs was a health resort in the early 1900's with a number of healing waters; Downtown Springs, Indian Healing Springs and a few others. The present day town is remenise of its Victorian Heritage. The original Sager Cabin is on the grounds of John Brown University in Siloam Springs. The Sager children were first in a line of German and Scotch-Irish settlers to migrate into the Arkansas Territory from Tennessee.

Dorcheat Bayou

Dorcheat Bayou



Once navigable from the Red River to Minden, Dorcheat Bayou, shown here at Dixie Inn, is a popular fishing area with scenic beauty in many places.

Dorcheat Bayou, also known as **Bayou Dorcheat**, is a 122-mile (196-km) stream in the USA that extends from Nevada County in southwestern Arkansas through Columbia County and into Webster Parish in northwestern Louisiana before emptying into Lake Bistineau east of the village of Doyline. To its south, Lake Bistineau joins Loggy Bayou to form a continuous passage of water into the Red River. Sometimes called the "heart of Webster Parish", Dorcheat is known for its "unending bounty of sights and sound" of nature.

In the 19th century, Dorcheat was navigable for three to six months per year as far as Minden, the seat of Webster Parish. Wharves and warehouses were built along the bayou, as steamboats brought supplies to the outlying areas and then returned with mainly cotton to the large market available in New Orleans. The land along the bayou was settled by the Caddo Indians. The names "Dorcheat" and "Bistineau" come from the Caddo and mean "people" and "big broth", respectively, the latter a reference to floating plant debris still found in the lake. In 1835, the Caddo signed a treaty with the United States government and left the Dorcheat country. A few white traders, trappers, and hunters had arrived in the area even before the Indians left. The early settlers used the Dorcheat because of log jams on the Red River, which were later eliminated by Captain Henry Miller Shreve, for whom Shreveport is named.

Isaac Alden, who arrived from New Orleans prior to the War of 1812, was one of the first white settlers about Dorcheat. A decade later, John Murrell arrived from Tennessee. Newitt Drew, an ancestor of Circuit Judge Judge Harmon Drew, Jr., and the late City Judge and State Representative R. Harmon Drew, Sr., both of Minden, constructed a sawmill and gristmill at Dorcheat in 1921, from which appeared the settlement of the defunct Overton in south Webster Parish. The settlers were dependent on the connection with the Red River as a tributary of the Mississippi.

Steamboats, including side-wheelers and stern-wheelers, sometimes encountered tragedies on Dorcheat Bayou. An early steamer caught fire as it returned south; a woman leaped from the vessel with a child under each arm. She but only one of the children were rescued. In 1850, the *Shamrock* also burned with the loss of one person. The ships carried cargo and passengers and often offered mostly musical entertainment. Among these ships were the *Danube*, the *Jewel*, and the *Marie Louise*,a reference to the second wife of Napoleon I. The steamboat era on Dorcheat ended in 1892, with the enhanced access to railroads, one of which was the Sibley, Lake Bistineau, and Southern Railway. Passenger rail service along Dorcheat Bayou ended in 1969.

Overton became the seat of government of Claiborne Parish. In 1871, Webster Parish was separated from Claiborne Parish. Plagued by epidemics, Overton was eventually abandoned. The Claiborne Parish seat of government was shifted east to Athens, and then the current location of Homer. Meanwhile, Charles H. Veeder, a New York native, established Minden in 1836, and the new community soon outgrew Overton. Veeder established the defunct Minden Female College, considered the oldest college in Louisiana. In time, farming declined along the Dorcheat, as petroleum and natural gas strikes occurred in Webster Parish during the 1920s.

Historian Marietta M. LeBreton, who was affiliated with Northwestern State University in Natchitoches from 1963 until her death in 2009, describes the modern Dorcheat as a "lazy stream winding through low, hilly farmland and catering to the fishermen and sportsmen of North Louisiana." Calm-water canoeing is another sport popular on Dorcheat.

The Nature Conservancy maintains forty acres on Dorcheat Bayou donated by James W. Bransford, who will designate another thousand acres in the future. The preserve is not open to the public.

The history of the Dorcheat country is revealed in certain exhibits at the Dorcheat Historical Association Museum at 116 Pearl Street in Minden. A correctional institute at the former Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant east of Minden is named for the bayou. There is also the Dorcheat Soil Conservation District.

Big Piney Creek

Big Piney Creek

Big Piney Creek is a body of water located in Ozark National Forest in the state of Arkansas. Managed by the United States Forest Service, it flows for 67 miles through Pope Johnson and Newton Counties. The headwaters of the creek are at in a rugged, remote area, while the water flow empties into Lake Dardanelle.

The creek is known among kayakers and canoers for its moderately challenging Class II to Class III rapids. Although much of the land adjacent to the creek is privately owned, the Forest Service operates two campgrounds, Haw Creek Falls and Long Pool, for visitors.

See also

- List of Arkansas rivers

References

- State of Arkansas guide [1]
- Paddler's guide [2]

Article Sources and Contributors

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